

Spain, Israel conducting secret talks over relations

MADRID (KUNA) — Spain is falling under mounting pressures, specially from France, to exchange diplomatic relations with Israel. Arab diplomatic reports reaching here from Madrid Wednesday said.

The urgent Arab reports said that a high ranking Israeli official conducted talks on the subject with the Spanish foreign ministry lately and that Premier Felipe Gonzalez is waiting for an opportune moment to declare Madrid's final stand on the question of establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel.

The socialist French government of President Mitterrand have played a leading role in persuading socialist Spain to maintain relations with Israel, the Arab diplomatic sources said.

Paris helped the Central African state of Zaïre to restore relations with Israel last year.

Despite the absence of diplomatic relations between Madrid and Tel Aviv, trade, tourism and cultural relations are developing rapidly, the sources said citing the inauguration of an air service between the two cities last month as indicative of promotion of relations between the two.

The Spanish press, on the other hand, carried reports of secret meetings between Jewish bus-



Gonzalez

nessmen and Gonzalez. The reports said that the socialist Spanish prime minister is looking for an opportunity to announce his government's final stand on the question of relations with Israel.

Small US-Soviet showdown occurs off Nicaragua's coast

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A US battleship off Nicaragua's Pacific coast hailed a Soviet freighter and asked it to identify itself and reveal its destination and cargo, according to Cuban press reports.

A Navy spokesman at the US Defence department Wednesday confirmed the American vessel had made the inquiry.

A US Navy ship questioned a Soviet ship Saturday in international waters prior to the Soviet cargo ship entering a Nicaraguan port, said Cmdr. Fred Leeder. It was never impeded at all. It was merely questioned by radio when it was going into port, he said.

Cuban official news agency reported Tuesday that the skipper of the Soviet freighter Alexander Ulyanov responded to the radio inquiries and his vessel then continued on to the port of Corinto.

The news agency identified the American ship as US Navy no. 8 Navy lists show that the guided-missile destroyer McCormick, which has the number 8 on its hull, is one of the ships in a battle group off Nicaragua's western coast.

President Reagan last week said the Alexander Ulyanov was carrying military supplies from the Soviet Union for the leftist Sandinista government of Nicaragua.

The Soviet freighter arrived at Corinto on Monday. It is anchored outside the port waiting for docking space.

Corinto is 98 miles (157 km) northwest of Managua, the Nicaraguan capital.

The Soviet official news agency Tass, although not specifying that a US Navy vessel questioned a Nicaragua-bound Soviet ship, said Wednesday the United States was ignoring international sea law off Central America.

Tass said the United States plans to overthrow the Nicaraguan government by various means, including a blockade of the country.

The establishment of a blockade of Nicaragua... could not be viewed otherwise than an act of war, Tass said. It is a question of not only an extremely dangerous aggressive action against Nicaragua... but also of a brazen challenge to the entire world community.

ROME — Last-minute negotiations Wednesday over distribution of Cabinet seats delayed formation of Italy's 44th postwar government, the first to be headed by a socialist. The Prime Minister designate Bettino Craxi said that his work on forming the new government is nearly completed, adding that the other four parties have to make proposals for dividing Cabinet seats.

NAIROBI — The Organization of African Unity appended Wednesday for an immediate cease-fire in the Chad civil war so that peace talks can start, the official Ethiopian News Agency reported. The escalation of violence now taking place with the serious destruction it entails — both material and human — bears the seeds of war with unforeseeable dimensions and consequences, it quoted from a statement issued by the OAU acting Secretary-General, Peter Onu of Nigeria.

SAN SALVADOR — Guerrillas seized two small towns in Eastern El Salvador and battled government troops on a mountain top in the northeastern province of Morazan, government and rebel sources said. The leftist guerrillas Radio Venceremos said rebels killed 14 government troops and wounded 19 in the fighting.

HARARE — The Zimbabwe government Wednesday tabled a motion in Parliament calling for the expulsion from the Lower House of Assembly of runaway opposition leader Joshua

Nkomo. The motion requires support from 51 of the legislators in the 100-member assembly. It is certain to be passed as the government of Prime Minister Mugabe holds 57 of the seats.

BERLIN — Canada and East Germany signed an agreement to cooperate in sports matters, the East Berlin Communist Party newspaper "Neues Deutschland" said Wednesday. The report did not say when the protocol was signed or give details of what it contained. It said both sides emphasized that the development of sports cooperation should contribute to understanding between both countries and to maintaining the peace.

NEW YORK — Twenty-six protesters were arrested after refusing orders to leave a truck gate at Seneca army depot, the focus of days of demonstrations over nuclear weapons outside the town of Romulus in the northern part of the state of New York. Some of the women arrested Tuesday had been at the depot since a rally Monday in which more than 200 women were taken into custody, officials said.

NDJAMENA — Government troops Wednesday morning captured the important Garzoun town of Goro, a traditional rebel stronghold deep in northern Chad, unofficial sources here said. If the report is confirmed, it would mark the first time President Hissene Habre's troops have ever controlled the town, which is 160 kilometres from the Libyan border and has been used as a staging area for rebel attacks against Njamena in the South.

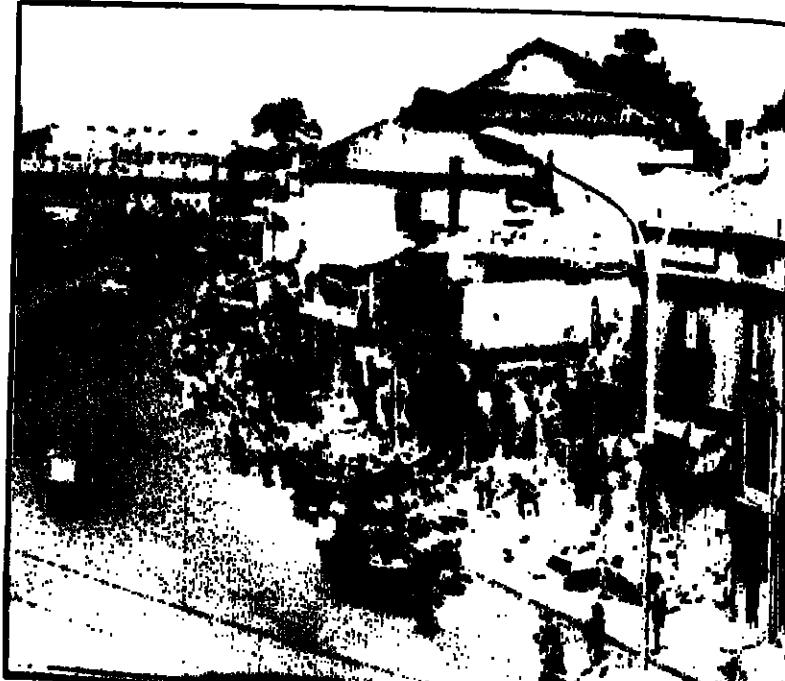
Pentagon proposes tanks to Saudi Arabia

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The US Department of Defence has announced the sale of 160A3 tanks to Saudi Arabia for "the modernization programme of Saudi Arabian infantry brigades."

An announcement, issued by the Pentagon 1 August, said the Congress has approved a proposed letter of offer to the government of Saudi Arabia for the sale of the improved 160A3 tanks at an estimated cost of \$ 176 million. The tanks would be equipped with thermal sight, night-time operations. The price would include spare parts, communication equipment, tools and other supporting equipment.

The Pentagon said the sale "will demonstrate the continuing willingness of the US to support Saudi Arabia which is an important force for moderation in the region."

The announcement said the Saudi land forces would have no difficulty absorbing the sale would not affect the basic military balance in the region and would not require the use of any additional US government personnel or contractor representatives to Saudi Arabia. It said there would be no adverse impact on US defence readiness as a result of the sale.



COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Workers start to remove the debris of a building in downtown Colombo where racial riots caused extensive damage last week. Ironically, a sign on the opposite background says "make your dream home a reality." (AP) photo

Israeli ministers oppose new pullout plans

By Star Staff Writer

ISRAELI MINISTER of sciences Yuval Niman said Israel will not abandon Awa line and will not pullout of Lebanon as long as there is one Syrian or Palestinian soldier there. Begin's government will not remain in office, he added, if it decides to withdraw from Lebanon at present. He said in a news report on Israeli radio that many ministers will leave the government as soon as Israeli soldiers start to withdraw.

Informed political sources in Jerusalem said that US special Middle East Envoy Mr. Robert McFarlane suggested a disengagement between Syrian and Israeli forces in Lebanon as a first step to be followed by gradual withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon provided Israel pullout first.

The sources added that Israel cannot accept proposals carried by McFarlane or to pullout from Lebanon before Syrians and Palestinians do so.

An informed Israeli source said Israeli-US relations will be strained but in America provide good grounds for proceeding with its manoeuvres.

Meanwhile the Israeli newspaper Haaretz reported that an armed Israeli group in the West Bank have been in instruction from Ariel Sharon for their provoking Arabs and assaulting their possessions.

The "First of Defence" clandestine unit was also formed with Sharon's aid and that high-ranking reserve officers in this organization, the paper added.

A settler's delegation representing Jewish settlements met with Sharon for three hours in his farm and discussed the settlement of the Jewish quarter in Hebron. A settlement of 500 Jewish families was the aim.

France refrains from intervention as dollar rises

PARIS (KUNA) — France will not participate in the concerted intervention to counteract the rise of the US dollar by the banks of Central America, Japan and Germany, exchange broker circles here said on Wednesday.

In spite of the rise of the dollar, the franc remains stable compared to the Deutsch mark and other currencies of the European Monetary System (EMS), brokers said, adding that the Bank of France apparently prefers not to encroach upon its foreign exchange reserves, particularly the dollar.

Meanwhile, Bank of Japan has, since Tuesday, led a concerted intervention by central banks on the Asian market, according to the same sources.

However, the value of the dollar rose on the European market.

In Paris Wednesday, the dollar was selling at 2.66 Deutsch marks and 8.01 French francs earlier in the day.

Massive selling of dollars on the American, Japanese, Swiss and West German banks, the first such action since a new principle at the Williamsburg summit, led the American currency down from peaks.

Crown Prince warns against Middle East polarisation danger

Jordan has to play middle ground role

By Carrie Nelle Thompson
Star Correspondent

THE 'MIDDLE GROUND' role of Jordan and of other Arab moderates is being eroded through a process of polarisation in the Middle East that will have serious consequences, says His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

In an exclusive interview with The Jerusalem Star, Prince Hassan gave an analysis of Jordan's role in the Middle East, and commented on its economic situation today. He acknowledged the importance of the United States in the Middle East and in Jordanian foreign policy, but said actions such as the use of its veto at the United Nations were "very damaging."

Crown Prince Hassan placed the greatest stress on "politics where people matter" in the interview. The full text follows.

Question: Can you explain Jordan's role in the Middle East crises particularly in view of the instability between Lebanon and Syria, the internal problems within the PLO and President Reagan's address of 1 September 1982?

Answer: The 1 September address of last year was a ray of hope, in the sense that a coherent American policy restated priorities related basically to the situation in Lebanon and in the occupied territories where Israeli military presence exists. During that period and immediately after it one witnessed a process of intense political activity on the one side; the initiation of the mediatory role of the US presidential envoy in Lebanon attempting to implement UN Security Council resolutions to achieve the withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian armed presence from Lebanon and also, quite clearly, the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty.

On the other side, political activity involved Jordan's quest for a Middle East peace based on the visit of the seven-man committee to four of the five Security Council capitals, led by His Majesty King Hussein. Our hope was to achieve a convincing breakthrough in terms of joint

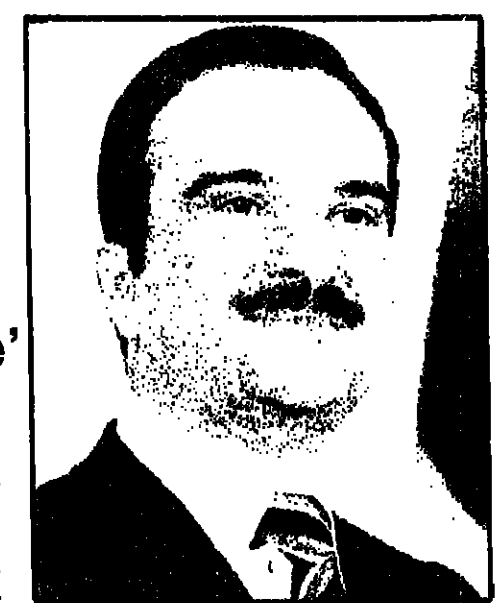
Palestinian-Jordanian move toward a comprehensive Middle East peace based on the recognition of security for all states and justice for all peoples. This would have been a facilitating factor in achieving withdrawal from Lebanon.

Of course the lack of progress and the virtual veto held by certain Arab countries, principally Libya and Syria, over the PLO's option of either moving from the armed struggle to political struggle or to face realities with a continuation of the armed struggle which has since developed into an internecine PLO conflict, regrettably made it impossible for us to achieve the necessary progress in the task of achieving a peace and led us to the 10 April admission of failure in the breakdown of talks at that time.

This admission had to be made public for the simple reason that the principal constituency of the Palestinians is and will always be the people under occupation, who are suffering the most in the context of the Palestinian human dimension. We had to make them aware of the fact that we had tried: We have tried through the Security Council members, within the context of the 1 September Reagan initiative. We assured the PLO that were they to work jointly with Jordan, our main priority was the restoration of the occupied territories and that we had no prior claims over those territories if Arab identity was restored there. But regrettably this was not to be.

Meanwhile, in Lebanon positions hardened. Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon was envisaged by the US administration as a relatively temporary affair, and a breakthrough there would have led to withdrawals from the West Bank and Gaza. Regrettably the entrenchment of the past several months has proved otherwise.

So what do you have? You referred to the Lebanese-Syrian situation and the infighting of the PLO. Effectively I think that one finds today that the political middle ground in this area, between the extremes — with Israel on the one side and Syria on the other — is the future of the individual identity of the Lebanese, of the Palestinians and principally those Palestinians under occupation, and the Jordanians. They form a sort of terra media — a middle ground — and I think it is that middle ground role that Jordan has to play at the present time. A middle ground that tries to



Crown Prince Hassan

keep political options alive despite the fact that the United States is entering into an election year and becoming introverted — more remote from the ground of the fact that the World Zionist Organization makes it quite clear that total Israeli control of the occupied territories, even annexation, may be a reality by 1985.

The human dimension

Q. What would Jordan do if Israel did annex the occupied territories as they did the Golan Heights?

A. Well, the options are very limited. I think that defensively we would have to consider the plight of many thousands of Palestinians who would be under pressure to leave the territories. This plight has been very eloquently described by Palestinian lawyer Jonathan Kuttab in an article in the Herald Tribune, in which he focuses on the Israeli readiness to expel hundreds of thousands of Palestinians from the occupied territories.

This would place Jordan under extreme socio-economic pressure. We have maintained the quality of life over the past 10 years and improved upon it from a \$400 per capita mark to over \$2,000 today. But if we were deluged as we have been in the past, in 1948 and 1967, with major demographic influxes of refugees from the occupied territories or whatever other sources — after all we have the Palestinian refugee situation in Lebanon — the human dimension would be very difficult to cope with.

Q. You mentioned the \$ 2,000 figure for per capita income. Is that just for Jordanians or does it include the refugees?



Thursday, 11 August 1983 marks the 31st anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

A. It includes on a non-discriminatory basis across the board Jordanians and Palestinians because a large source of our income is the remittances from abroad. It is not only self-generating income that I am speaking about, and Jordan has been one of the few countries probably the only host country to Palestinian refugees — that has attempted within its means not to differentiate socio-economically. We are at the top of the list of the non-oil producing Arab countries in terms of our per capita income.

Q. What is happening right now with the Palestinians and Israelis around Sidon, with the Israelis wanting to establish Major Haddad... How does Jordan view this and what can Jordan do?

A. Of course we are a by-stander in the sense that we don't have a border with Lebanon. But we are not a by-stander in the sense that we are genuinely fearful of the Israeli strategy for the 1980s, articulated in the "Journal of Judaism and Zionism" — the winter edition of last year — which spoke of measures that would make Israel a dominating minority in an area of minorities. Since World War II the Israeli statistical abstract indicates that 3 million Jews have emigrated from Israel between 1959 and 1979 — 1 million are living permanently outside Israel. Today the security drum is being beaten principally by the Oriental Jewish community, and it is this community that wants to establish itself in the decision-making process in Israel at the expense of the Occidental or Ashkenazi Jewish community. Its security fears changed the very character of the Israeli community into a state which feels that any measure is expedient in establishing security.

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Beirut airport attack signifies trouble

By Carrie Nelle Thompson
Star Correspondent

BEIRUT — Beirut residents awoke on Wednesday morning to news that the Beirut International Airport had been bombed twice, once at 5:30 a.m. and again two hours later.

Reports say that approximately 20 artillery shells exploded with each at-

tack. One shell landed near a US Marines post, injuring one officer.

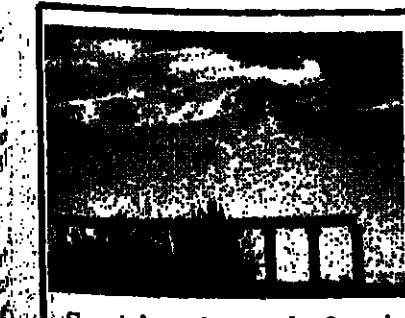
Varying reports indicate that from two to four Lebanese civilians at the airport were killed, with some 20-30 injured as general panic erupted among civilians and airport personnel.

The shelling came from an Israeli-controlled Druze sector of the Shouf mountains. It followed several days of particularly intense fighting between Christian and Druze forces. Israeli forces reportedly moved in quickly to talk with the Druze after the airport attack.

The Associated Press reported that the attack killed three Lebanese women and a child. Twenty-four other persons were wounded, AP said, including one US Marine and a Lebanese soldier, police and Marine spokesmen reported.

US presidential envoy Robert McFarlane drove to the Marine compound at the airport, apparently on a morale-boosting visit to the 1,200-man American contingent in the Multinational Peacekeeping Force about five hours after the bombardment.

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Book exhibition at Jerash will break new ground

By Lella G. Deeb
Star Staff Writer

million books, says its organizer Dr. Ahmad Sharkas, Director-General of the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives, claims for the

fair the distinction of being the first of its kind in the Middle East

In an interview with The Star, Dr. Sharkas said that the 75,000 titles exhibited will include children's books,

academic, technical, literary and many other types of books in both Arabic and English

"It is going to be annual because we want it to become a tradition, similar to others all over the world," he said. He went on to explain that Lebanon has recently held its 26th book fair, Egypt its 16th, Kuwait its 8th and Iraq its first. "So we are not far behind," he added.

One of the most important elements of this year's Jerash Festival, the book fair will host 100 Jordanian and Arab publishers. Guests will come from Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Palestine, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia. Non-Arab exhibitors will come from India, Romania, the United Kingdom, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and the United States. For English readers, audience, McGraw-Hill and John Wiley, Inc. will be among the exhibitors.

The fair "will continue to be an integral part of the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts in the coming year," said Dr. Sharkas.

One of the most important aims of this gigantic book fair is to promote reading habits among Jordanians, particularly children, while at the same time encouraging them to build their own book collections. The fair is also registered in our educational system, and such a project may very well be the catalyst in starting a worthy trend.

Other aims are to make the largest possible number of Arabic book titles available to the Jordanian scholar, researcher and layman. They would be

in all fields of knowledge, thus helping customers to "stay abreast with the latest developments in any particular field." This could also promote education.

The fair provides opportunities for cultural and academic institutions to choose directly from publishers rather than book lists. This will also work, other way, as publishers will have the opportunity to acquire first-hand information about the potential and specific needs of the Jordanian market, as well as to meet local publishers and distributors from Jordan and elsewhere in the Arab World.

Prices will be very competitive, Dr. Sharkas said. Each exhibitor will be renting a small booth including all necessary furniture for JD 10 per square metre. This is a very low price but there's a catch to it. In return, a copy of every book exhibited will be free to develop the nucleus of the National Central Public Library, which already has 50,000 books. This central library is one of the main projects of the department.

In addition to commercial exhibitors, Dr. Sharkas said, there will be countries, international and regional organizations, which will be conducting their own exhibitions within the fair. These will be symbolic exhibits from each country or organization.

This will be one of three separate sections of the book fair. It will also contain the national Jordanian and Palestinian book section, completely run by the Jordanian Writers' Association.

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'Pressure on US may be needed' Jordanian UN delegate says all forums are important

By Khader Mansour
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Jordanian envoy to the United Nations Abdullah Salah this week said that whatever the frustrations the Arabs face in the diplomatic field, they should not lose any forum or platform they can use to serve Arab issues irrespective of any obstacles they may encounter.

In an interview with The Star, Mr. Salah stressed that the Security Council can be a useful platform if it is positive in terms of farsightedness and vision, and is effective to bring about a consensus of representatives of member states on certain issues of vital importance to the Middle East.

It might be of remarkable value to bring diplomatic pressure on the US, to change its attitude and lessen the use of

the frustrating veto, provided that Arab ranks are united and their aims specified.

"We were able, however, in last week's debate in the Security Council over Israeli practices in the occupied territories, with particular references to Hebron tragic events, to appear in a unified front and produce a draft resolution co-sponsored by all Arab states," he said.

"It is very much regretted that with all the effort put in by moderate Arab states who sincerely believe in the Arab-American friendship, they find, almost every time that there is a debate on basic issues of the Middle East conflict between the Arabs and Israel, to find the US and Israel in the same camp."

When asked if there is any distinction or discrimination among countries which support the Arab view and

those who support Israel, he said, "I believe that the time is drawing near when an objective evaluation should be made by Arab states to answer this question."

He went on to say, "I think that Israel has reached the point of no return for allowing a just and lasting peace to be attained in the Middle East — an honourable peace that the parties concerned can live with. Co-existence is made almost impossible by the Israeli policies of annexation of Jerusalem, the Golan Heights and other Arab territories, and the expropriation of Arab lands in addition to the building of new Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Israelis should come to their senses and realize that they have to live ultimately in peace with their neighbours, and that small nuclei of reasonable groups like the Peace Now movement, and a few in-



Abdullah Salah

tellectuals, will grow in number and establish themselves as an effective political power on the Israeli political scene.

"Hope will remain gloomy of achieving the peace very badly needed by the masses of Arab and Israeli people."

The Jordanian envoy, commenting on the reaction to the serious events which recently took place in Hebron, said the reaction was indeed strong, as the secretary-general of the United Nations condemned the attack on Islamic University students in strong terms. It alarmed a great majority of the membership of the UN, he said, as it was taken as a sign of accelerating Israeli policies, reaching the stage of mass expulsion of the inhabitants of Hebron and the West Bank through intimidation.

The coverage in the American media was rather low-key and dry, he said. The US press did not give the event its due importance, and depicted it as part of a series of terrorist acts on part of the Jewish settlers of Kiryat Arba.

Any action in the United Nations should reflect the recurrent incidents to indicate a sense of fairness and balance between the two parties. Mr. Salah asserted.

Lebanon seeks solutions

Continued from page 1

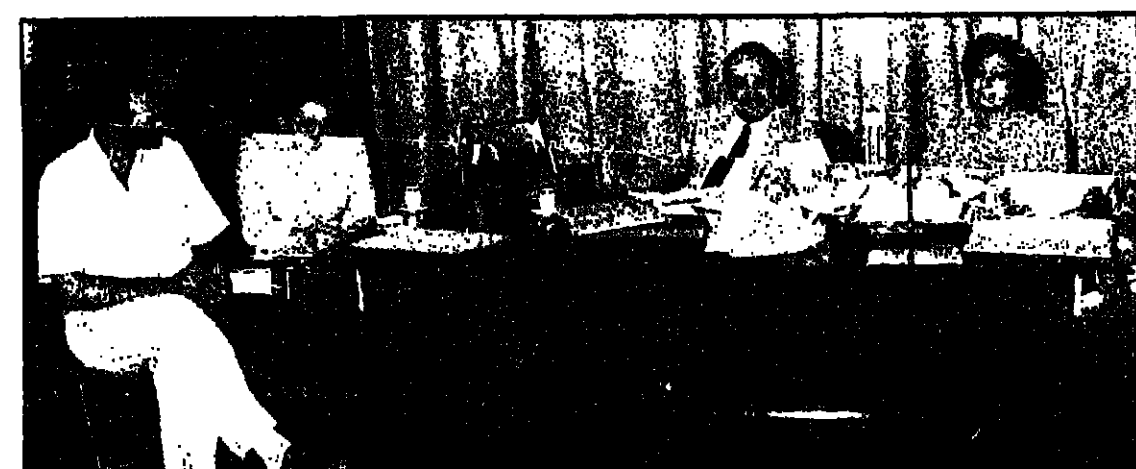
There was no responsibility claim for Wednesday's rocket attack, which caused off casualties and damages from the army, which had been attacking guerrillas from towns and villages in the controlled Northern and Eastern Lebanon.

The Marine contingent was put on condition one, the highest state of alert, for the first time in four months.

Marines reinforced their sandbagged positions and dug more foxholes as loudspeakers broadcast announcements to the peacekeepers: Keep your helmets in hand. Keep that gear handy. Work on the bunkers.

In Damascus, the National Salvation Front, which groups Syrian-backed opponents of the Gemayel regime issued a statement calling for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the area.

The statement called for an end to the fighting between guerrillas loyal to Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat and rebels led by Col. Saeed Musa in the Bekaa Valley. It was issued after a meeting of the fronts leadership with Syrian Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam and Army Chief of Staff, Lt. Gen. Hikmat Shehadi.



Left to right: Taleb Abdul Amir, Numa Misiheh, Abu Taleb Al-Hashemi and Sa'ud Muheddin of the Iraqi trade delegation take a rest from examining piles of Jordanian export goods

Iraqi trade team examines goods from hundreds of companies

By Kathy Kakish
Special to the Star

AMMAN — An Iraqi commercial delegation has been swamped this week with a large number of offers from Jordanian producers and traders to export Jordanian consumer products to Iraq.

The products that delegation was interested in buying included such goods as ready-made clothing, soap, dry-cell batteries, ball-point pens, cosmetics, canned food, cigarettes and alcoholic beverages for a total worth of around JD 5 million.

The delegation is headed by Abu Taleb Al-Hashemi, Director of the Iraqi State Organization for Consumer Goods. It has done most of the negotiations over contracts for the purchase of products at the Amman Chamber of

Industry. Ali Dajani, Director of the Chamber of Industry, told The Star that all Jordanian manufacturers were invited to offer their goods.

Although producers were asked to present the best they had and offer the most moderate prices, they were not interfered with in their dealings with the delegation. More than 100 producers came daily to offer their goods.

Mr. Dajani said that this was the second time an Iraqi delegation has come to Jordan to purchase goods in accordance with bilateral agreements made five months ago. The first delegation, which came last month, purchased building materials for a total of JD 16 million.

A third delegation will soon be invited to Jordan to buy industrial goods.

Mr. Dajani said that special consideration is given particularly to offer goods that Iraq does not produce itself to avoid commercial problems of duplication.

On Jordan's part, similar delegations from the Chamber of Industry have already made three visits to Iraq.

Mr. Hashemi told The Star that the delegation would like to make as many contracts as possible to establish a better trading centre and to pave the way to improving the economies of both countries better.

Mr. Hashemi has frequently been to Jordan. He said that there had earlier been an exchange of delegations of various kinds.

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Israeli policies aim at annexation, Nuseibeh charges

'World recession's influence on Jordan has been minimal'

Ministry official assesses condition of economy

By Khader Mansour
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Arab people of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip ask of Arab governments that they have "unity of purpose and an integral implementation of that purpose," says Mr. Anwar Nuseibeh.

Mr. Nuseibeh is the Director of the Jerusalem District Electricity Company, which survived a takeover bid by the Israeli occupation authorities in 1979, and is a former prominent figure in earlier Jordanian governments. He spoke to the Star in an interview before leaving Amman this week to return to the West Bank.

On the relationship between the Israeli authorities and local administrative bodies, he said, "Israel is not only an occupier, but aims to annex the occupied territory as well, once it is in a position to resolve the demographic formula in its favour."

"Clearly," he stressed, "in such a situation achieving this end. In the case of the one utility of which I have first-hand knowledge — the Jerusalem District Electricity Company — we have been fortunate enough so far, not only to survive but also to expand."

Asked whether or not he expects Israeli extremists to try to destroy the Muslim holy places in Jerusalem one day, he recalled the testimony of a Palestinian leader before the Peel Commission in 1937, which investigated this question. The leader said he was afraid for the safety both of Muslim and Christian shrines, and Mr. Nuseibeh said there had been no changes in the situation since then.



Anwar Nuseibeh

"Therefore my answer is yes, I fear for the future as long as the present untenable situation continues to prevail."

On the economic situation in the Arab people of the occupied city of Hebron, he said, "The objective is very clear. It is twofold: On the one hand, to practise pressure against the Arab population with a view to making life difficult for them, and on the other hand, to compel them to accept the illegal existence of Israeli settlers in Arab territory as a normal phenomenon, which the Arab population must accept on Israeli terms."

Mr. Nuseibeh said Israel's attitude towards the idea of peace was contradictory: "There is total illogic between Israel's claim that it pursues the cause of peace and its policies on the ground, which negate its claim and which are insurmountable obstacles to peace."

By Star Staff Writer

THE DROP in Jordan's economic growth rate in 1982 was substantial, but left the country still in a better position than many, says Mohammad Saleh Al-Hourani, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

In an interview with The Star, Mr. Hourani spoke of the impressive performance of the Jordanian economy in the face of great challenges, and of the country's hopes for more improvement in the future.

"Jordan suffers from the scarcity of natural resources and the insufficiency of arable land, Mr. Hourani said. "Moreover, due to the catastrophe of 1948, the population of Jordan tripled as compared with the population before that year, and its trade routes were turned away from the ports of Palestine."

"Still more, the war of June 1967 and its accompanying effects led to the impendence of the burst of economic development which reached its peak in that year." These effects, he said, included an increase in military expenditure, the immigration of about 400,000 inhabitants of the West Bank to the East Bank and the "inevitable standstill" of many development projects which had been included in the first five-year development plan (1966-1970).

Basic infrastructure

Despite these challenges Jordan was able to continue its development. From 1948 until the beginning of the 1960s growth in the gross domestic product averaged 11.5 per cent per annum and prices maintained relative stability. Efforts were concentrated on the provision of a basic economic infrastructure and the basic foundations of some industries were established which were to play an important role in the future development of the Jordanian economy.

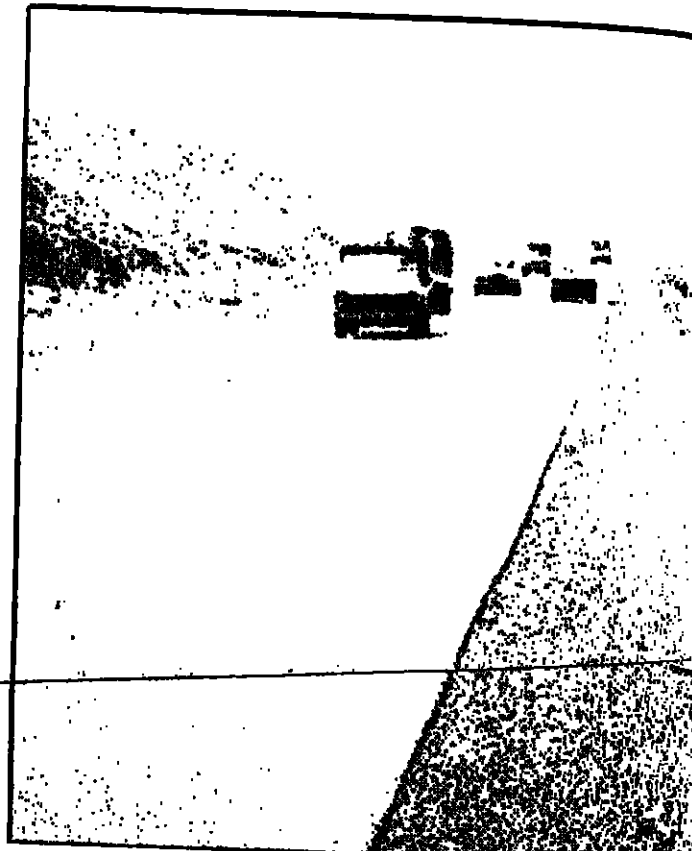
"The period which preceded 1967, the year of the occupation of the West Bank, witnessed increasing and rapid growth of the economy as well as a continuing rise in the gross national product. It reached JD 186 million in 1966 as compared with JD 131 million in 1962, or an average annual increase of 9.1 per cent," Mr. Hourani said.

"Then came the war of 1967 which curbed this growth, resulting in the recession of all productive and services sectors. This recession continued until the beginning of the implementation of the three-year development plan for 1973-75."

He spoke of the beginning of a "return of vitality to the Jordanian economy" during the three-year plan, despite the appearance of inflation. Annual inflation averaged 10 per cent, and the real growth of the gross domestic product averaged 6 per cent. The industrial sector realized high growth rates, he said.

The first five-year plan (1976-1980) started a period of rapid economic growth. The average annual increase of the real gross domestic product was 8.5 per cent, and that of the real gross national product 11 per cent.

"As regards the effect of the world economic recession on Jordan, the matter how much has been said about this subject, the economy of Jordan



The Desert Highway: The early phase of Jordan's development concentrated on providing basic infrastructure

like the economies of developing and other countries, has been influenced," he said.

In 1982 the gross national product reached JD 1,711 million, or a growth rate of 12.3 per cent at current market prices and 4.5 per cent at fixed prices. The gross domestic product reached JD 1366.6 million at current prices as compared with JD 1306.2 million for 1981, or a growth rate of 13.3 per cent at current prices, 5.5 per cent at fixed prices.

"Although these are less than the growth rate realized during the past 10 years (which themselves were relatively high by all standards), they are to be regarded as good when compared with the rates of growth realized by developing countries and even by advanced countries."

"All this indicates that the influence of the world economic recession on the Jordanian economy has been minimal."

Political stability

Asked about investment incentives in Jordan, Mr. Hourani spoke of the country's "prominent political stability," its free economic order, encouragement of private initiative and support for joint ventures between domestic and foreign capital. Restrictions imposed on the repatriation of foreign capital are negligible, he said.

"Jordan is marked by a strategic geographical location because it is located at the centre of the Middle East and is a member of the Arab Common Market. These factors grant its products the privilege of exemption from customs duties when they are exported to member states of the Arab Common Market."

"In addition, Jordan is bound by bilateral trade agreements with the other Arab countries for the sake of facilitating trade exchange. Jordan is endowed with trained technical cadres and modern banking and other financial establishments."

The Encouragement of Investment law provides for treatment of Arab, foreign and domestic capital equally and transfer of Arab and foreign capi-

tal, profits, dividends, interest, and salaries outside the kingdom, convertible foreign currency.

Profits of industrial projects are exempt from income tax for a period up to nine years. Machinery, equipment and tools are exempt from customs duties, import fees and all additional charges. In certain cases, contracts of state land may be granted, of charge, to industrial projects to meet their needs.

"Jordanian and non-Jordanian individuals are allowed to transfer currencies within or outside the kingdom without limit," he said. "Non-resident persons can open deposit accounts in foreign currencies with banks; these accounts with currencies derived from any source and withdrawn without penalties."

He also mentioned the stability of the rate of exchange of the Jordanian dinar, the establishment of free zones at Aqaba and Amman and industrial estates. "These estates provide industrial projects with lands and all services of these incentives and facilities made Jordan a privileged centre of investments."

Chronic deficit

Asked about Jordan's trade balance, Mr. Hourani said, "Jordan is concerned about the chronic deficit in its balance of trade. This is one of the features of the economies of developing countries in general. In 1982, while the value of Jordan's domestic exports totalled JD 264.5 million, the value of foreign imports totalled JD 1147.3 million, i.e. a trade deficit of JD 882.8 million."

"In 1981 the value of the trade deficit totalled JD 805 million. It is expected that the trade deficit will persist in the coming years."

"Some of the targets of the social and economic development plan for 1981-85 are to raise the total value of domestic exports to JD 433 million and to improve the terms of trade to the extent that the ratio of this balance of trade deficit to the gross national product shall not exceed 49 per cent in 1985."

East Ghor pipeline due to open in '84

By Hamdan Al-Haj
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — If all continues to go well, Amman will in mid-1984 begin receiving 45 million cubic metres a year of water directly from the East Ghor Canal in the Jordan Valley.

A JD 11 million project now under way will provide a new water supply system for the city of Amman and adjacent areas, says Dr. Mohammad Bani Hani, Director of the Water Department at the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA).

In an interview with The Star, Dr. Bani Hani said, "The western terminus of the project is the East Ghor Main Canal (at Deir Alla), where an intake pump station will be constructed. The pipeline extends southeasterly towards Amman, passing through four high lift pump stations to a water treatment plant located adjacent to the Zai forest."

"It further extends through another high lift pump station to a terminal reservoir located near Suweileh, then continues to the existing Awsa (Amman Water and Sewerage Authority) reservoir R-14, ultimately terminating at the Azraq pipeline near 'Ain Ghazal."

The pipeline, a total of 49 kilometres long, varies in diameter from 600 to 1,200 mm. It is lined and coated with epoxy. The intake pump station and



Muhammad Bani Hani

the four high lift stations each have four pump units each with a rated capacity of 1,317 cu.m./hr.

The treatment plant has a raw water regulating reservoir and a clearwell storage facility. The concrete terminal reservoir has three compartments, with a total capacity of 250,000 cu.m. There is a centralised control system providing control and sensing of all pumping equipment, along with voice communications. A 33-kilovolt line brings power to all the pumps.

Construction of the system was divided into five contracts, awarded separately to different contractors. They include Bulgaria's Technoimpex, Lebanon's Mothercat, South Korea's Hanbo and UK's Sir George Wimpey International.

Bangladeshi team visits to stimulate demand for jute

AMMAN (Star) — A delegation representing the Bangladeshi Jute Industry and the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), on a recent visit to Jordan, attempted to overcome a slack demand created by changed habits in Jordanian fibre requirements.

The delegation was headed by Mohammad Enamul Huk, Director of Marketing for the Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation. It visited here in the course of a tour that also included Iraq and Turkey. Mr. Huk told The Star the intent was to arrange for jute exports with finance from the IDB, and if possible to sign sales contracts.

Amman Chamber of Commerce Director Rajih Al-Amin told The Star that Jordan does not now import Bangladeshi jute, although it took about 2 million tonnes between 1980 and 1982. "The quantities were reduced due to the shift to using polypropylene sacks, which are produced in Jordan," he said. "The polypropylene has competitive prices and other advantages."

Jordan takes what jute it does need mostly from India, China and Korea, he said. This was because of difficulties in arranging sea transportation from Bangladesh to Aqaba.

East and Central African countries search for oil with aeromagnetic survey

DAR ESSALAAM (KUNA) — An oil exploration project involving five East and Central African countries on lakes Victoria, Tanganyika and Albert started last month, reports the ruling party newspaper "Uhuru" (Freedom).

"Uhuru" quoted a geologist working with Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), Hailan Hailani, as saying that aeromagnetic surveys started last month on the Kenyan side of the lake.

He said surveys over areas on the Tanzanians side of the lake would start later this month after the Ugandan side work has been completed.

The five countries involved in the project are Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Zaire and Burundi. The World Bank

has provided a short-term soft loan of \$364.583 for the project.

Mr. Hailani said that the headquarters for recording results of aeromagnetic surveys on Lake Victoria will be in Entebbe, Uganda, where participating countries would be represented.

Aeromagnetic surveys on lakes Tanganyika and Albert, the geologist said, would start immediately after surveys on Lake Victoria have been completed. Headquarters for surveys of lakes Tanganyika and Albert will be in Bujumbura.

Early last month, Tanzanian Minister for Water and Energy Al-Noor Kassam said that the five countries have agreed to launch a joint aeromagnetic survey over these lakes in search for petroleum.

Philips, AT&T join forces

EINDHOVEN, Holland (KUNA) — Two of the world's largest electronic telecommunication equipment producers have entered a large-scale joint venture aimed at producing cheaper computer-controlled telephone exchanges and transmitters, Philips Electronics President W. Dekker announced here.

Mr. Dekker described the joint venture between Philips and the American Telephone and Telegraph Corporation (AT & T), as a remarkable event which, due to the great micro-electronic knowledge of the two com-

panies and their experience in the field of producing digital telephone exchanges based on very advanced computers, would allow for the production of cheap computer-controlled telephone exchanges and transmitters.

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Computerized De Beers frustrates Mobutu's attempt to challenge his monopoly

fraud poses huge threat

Firms keep Zaire under their thumb

By James Knaul

By Robin McKie
LONDON (ONS) — Three New York children uncovered a remarkable secret. Using a commercial computer network hired by their school, they cracked a code developed by Pepsi Cola to control its Canadian freight movement.

The discovery proved irresistible. In a few days, they began a massive and confusing interchange of business on Pepsi's behalf. Baffled subsidiaries started to receive lorry loads of empty bottles; train loads of cola syrup were despatched across Canada to unsuspecting factories; the company's HQ was deluged by fictitious business.

It took the combined forces of the FBI and the Canadian Mounted Police to track down the culprits. Being minors all escaped prosecution, although their activities undoubtedly cost Pepsi "an absolute fortune," as one international banker recently put it.

The tale certainly has comic overtones. Nevertheless the children's antics highlight a serious problem for companies and banks attempting to combat computer fraud, which is rising at an alarming rate.

One recent estimate suggested the average sum stolen in each computer fraud in America has reached \$400,000, which is 10 times the average haul of a "normal" bank raid. Some computer thefts are of mammoth proportions.

Computer consultant Stanley Rifkin managed to switch \$10.6 million from a US bank into his own account.

He then transferred the money to Europe and used it to buy discount Russian gems. He was caught only because his girlfriend betrayed him to the FBI. She got a reward for the information and the bank made a profit by selling the gems for \$14 million. Rifkin was jailed.

"It is easy to feel some sympathy for Rifkin," said Kevin Kearney, assistant manager of the Bank of International Settlements in Basel. "However his activities and those of people like him ultimately threaten our personal liberties."

At a seminar in the South of France, organised by the computer giant Sperry, Mr. Kearney said a bank swindle involving hundreds of millions of dollars was imminent and inevitable.

Computers linked by data networks allow banks to handle a vast amount of financial traffic.

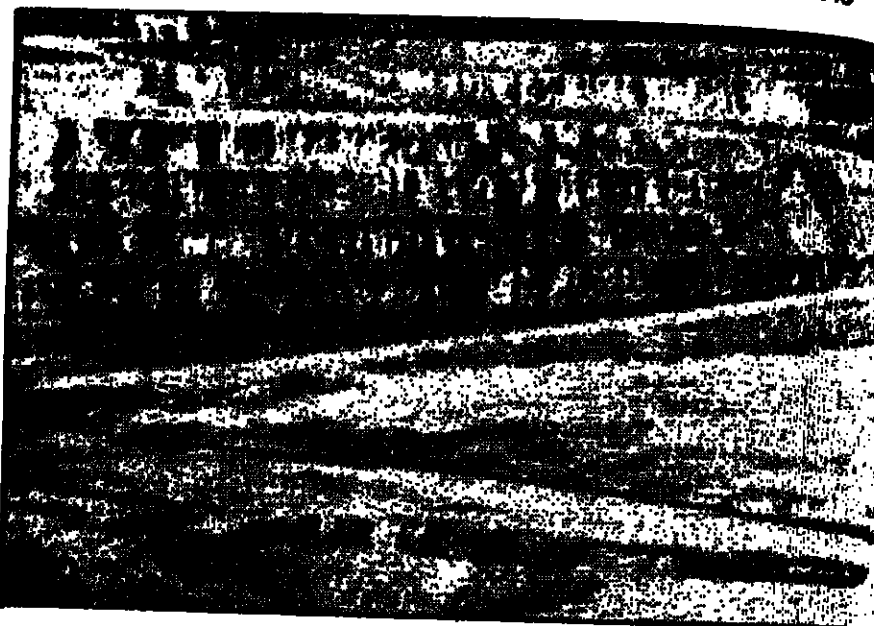
AFTER 20 YEARS of independence, Zaire, like most other African countries, has been unable to take control of the activities of foreign mining companies. In their book "Africa Undermined", Greg Lanning and Mari Mueller have attributed this failure to the fact that "At each stage in the mining process the technical managerial and financial expertise of the mining companies, coupled with their economic and political power, ensures that the continent's minerals production remains firmly under company control, while the economic development of the host countries comes a long way down the list of priorities of these international groups."

In the case of Zaire, which is the largest producer of industrial diamonds in the world, this dependence is overwhelming since Mobutu handed over to the South African-based De Beers group the exclusive diamond marketing rights of his country which De Beers exercised for nearly 14 years. It was this monopoly that Mobutu desperately wanted to break in May 1981, when he terminated De Beers sales contract of Zaire's diamonds in the vain hope that by making his own separate marketing arrangements he would succeed in obtaining better prices for his country's diamonds.

Back in the fold

"He would come back to the fold." "The final chapter has not yet been written." These were some of the remarks of De Beers' top executives after the break with Zaire in 1981. Although Mobutu's action did slightly upset De Beers orderly marketing plans by his decision to appoint Jack Lunzer's Industrial Diamond Company along with two Antwerp traders to market Zaire's diamonds, it was obvious that he could not on his own break the monopoly of the group which is part of the powerful Anglo-American Corporation that claims to market over 80 per cent of world rough diamond production through its Central Selling Organisation (CSO) based in London.

Mobutu was not in fact the first to challenge De Beers monopoly. In the past twenty years, both manufacturers of synthetic diamonds as well as diamond miners in Sierra Leone, West Africa and Latin America, have at various instances tried but failed to market their diamonds independently because of the swift intervention of De Beers. It was difficult to see how Mobutu's action could have succeeded since no other major African diamond producer, including Botswana, Angola, Sierra Leone and Ghana, was prepared to follow his example by withdrawing from the cartel which has come to be looked upon almost religiously as the only efficient way of maintaining stability in an otherwise potentially volatile market.



Open-pit mine in Zaire: Hostage to foreign expertise

giously as the only efficient way of maintaining stability in an otherwise potentially volatile market.

De Beers has been able to dominate the market by the simple expedient, established years ago by Ernest Oppenheimer, who insisted that producers should be able to control both the production and sale of diamonds since the artificially high prices of the stones depend almost entirely on their scarcity. Unlike other primary commodities, which are often subjected to price fluctuations, De Beers has seen to it that diamonds are immune from such calamities by constantly keeping supplies in line with demand through a De Beers-dominated Diamond Producers Association which controls production by allocating quotas to individual producers in South Africa and Namibia.

End of defiance

Other producers outside South Africa are encouraged to enter into contracts with De Beers that enable the group to buy a minimum quantity of diamonds yearly from producers with the option to buy more if world sales are buoyant. If however a company produces too many diamonds which De Beers cannot buy, the contract usually stipulates that the balance must be stockpiled. It is this last condition that most African countries consider intolerable since it prevents them from earning much needed revenue even at lower prices.

Zaire's twenty-two months of defiance had to come to an end for two main reasons. The first

was that in spite of the highly acclaimed effort John Lunzer's Industrial Diamond Company, the Caddi and Clacot companies of Antwerp, handled Zaire's diamond sales for this year. Zaire's diamond exports are reported to have fallen from \$68 million in 1980 to about \$1 million in 1981, partly because De Beers used simple device of flooding the market for industrial diamonds. This development had a salutary effect on Mobutu who now presides over a bankrupt economy.

An equally powerful consideration must have been the realisation that the big new West Australian Argyle diamond mine has opened up all of its diamonds marketed by De Beers CSO in London. As Argyle's diamonds are of similar type to those of Zaire, and are estimated to reach an annual output of 25 million carats over three years compared to Zaire's production of 10 million carats, this would have made it virtually impossible for Zaire to keep out of the cartel in hope to compete successfully with the Argyle mine supplies.

Zaire's failed attempt to disentangle itself from De Beers' powerful embrace, which De Beers Chairman, Harry Oppenheimer, has paternalistically called "a bad example", has left De Beers in a stronger position, since it is highly unlikely that any other diamond producer would repeat Zaire's example in the foreseeable future. Some years ago, Harry Oppenheimer remarked that, "Big business doesn't really have the power most people think it has, does it?"

(Third World Weekly)

South Africa divestment call gets serious hearing in US

By Carole Collins

WASHINGTON (PNS) — Long relegated to the idealistic margins, the campaign for "divestment" in South Africa is gaining ground today in the real world of US high finance for reasons which include sound business sense, as well as moral principles.

For better than a decade, American critics of apartheid have been working to end US corporate and investment links to South Africa, often to little effect. In the last 12 months more headway has been made than in the previous 12 years.

The turnaround has come primarily because church and labour groups, community and anti-apartheid organizations have united their somewhat disparate objectives around a common new strategy: using the tremendous weight of public money to bring pressure on US banks and corporations active in South Africa. The results have been impressive.

On 4 January, the Massachusetts legislature easily overrode outgoing governor Edward J. King's veto to pass the strongest state pension fund divestment bill in the nation. Some \$120

million invested in firms doing business in South Africa is at stake.

One week before, outgoing Michigan governor William Milliken signed into law a bill banning investment by state educational institutions in companies operating in South Africa.

In late October, conservative Grand Rapids, Michigan — hometown to Gerald Ford and to many Dutch-Americans with church and ethnic ties to Afrikaans — adopted a policy prohibiting the deposit of idle municipal funds in banks lending to South Africa, or to US companies doing business there.

Last June, Philadelphia became the first major US city to pass, with strong bipartisan support, a pension fund divestment bill. Soon after, Wilmington, Del. passed a similar bill, and on 4 January Congressman John Ray introduced another in the nation's capital.

Increasingly, these developments dovetail with the concerns of some in the business world itself. A First National Bank of Chicago stockholder, during the bank's 1980 annual meeting, noted that some \$90 million had been lost because the bank — like the

US government — ignored signs of extreme social tension in the South African. Another shareholder added: "Things are not going to get better in South Africa. So we had better begin to think now about what we're going to do as things get worse."

On 26 January, the Chrysler Corporation announced its decision to sell off its 25 per cent stake in Sigma Motors Corporation, South Africa's third largest auto and truck manufacturing company. Not long before, General Electric backed out of a mining venture in the KwaZulu black "homeland," in part because of mounting calls for divestment in the company's home state of Connecticut.

Polair, Inc. pulled out in 1977, after learning that its South African distributor had violated a 1971 agreement not to sell products to the government. Indeed, South Africa's own largest company, the Anglo-American Corporation, has expanded its overseas investments — as insurance against future upheavals, according to some observers.

A few companies are even finding ways to profit from pro-divestment sentiment. Chemical Bank said it makes trade-related loans of a non-strategic nature to South Africa, but has made

no loans to the South African government or companies doing business there since 1974. Chemical is now setting up a special fund that would invest only in non-South Africa-related companies, to capture part of the divested public pension funds and church endowments.

No one understands more clearly that divestment has become a serious matter than the South Africans themselves. While South African consulates have often conducted low-key lobbying efforts against divestment bills, only recently have South Africa's paid lobbyists become active at the state level, in response to the growing success of state and municipal divestment bills.

These efforts have been successfully countered by groups which enjoy widespread support from churches, organized labour and community organizations. Among the proposals for alternative investment made by divestment supporters in Massachusetts, one particularly struck home with state residents: that the pension funds be used to help revitalize local neighbourhoods and generate jobs.

There, as in Michigan, the Ford Motor Company lobbied vigorously

against divestment, arguing for an amendment that would have exempted companies which observe the so-called "Sullivan principles" of corporate responsibility. Black unions in South Africa have publicly rejected this approach, which involves voluntary company-sponsored improvements in working conditions, as cosmetic and difficult to monitor or evaluate.

Adoption of the Ford amendment in Massachusetts would have exempted 11 of the 13 companies in South Africa in which state pension funds are invested. In Michigan, Ford's lobbyists implicitly conceded divestment's impact by asking state legislators to exempt the automaker as "an economically distressed corporation." The diversity of Michigan, another active opponent of the bill, may still challenge it in the courts as an infringement of university autonomy.

Divestment advocates are far from claiming that the battle has been won. In mid-1982, US banks had \$3.6 billion in outstanding loans to South Africa's public and private sectors, and direct investment was estimated at \$2.6 billion.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET REPORT

Instability continues

By Mamdouh El-Ghaly

THIS WEEK was unstable in volume and prices. Handling on the first day reached JD 200,000, but by the fourth day it dropped to JD 170,000 and on the last day it soared up to five times as much as the day before.

On the first day prices decreased, during the next two days they rose and during the last two days they dropped again, for an average overall price rise of less than 0.1 per cent.

Big deals were made again in the banks sector. Here, JD 500,000 worth of Bank of Jordan stock was handled during the last working day.

Over 500,000 shares were handled in the market, for a total of JD 1.6 million divided among 1,228 contracts: an increase of 34.4 per cent compared to last week. Average daily handling came to JD 320,000. Daily deviation from this average reached 42 per cent or 8.4 per cent of total handling, a sign of instability in the daily handling volume.

Banks

The Bank of Jordan deal increased the banks sector's share of total handling to 77.2 per cent, which is an increase of 10.6 points compared to last week.

Within the sector five out of 16 banks occupied 78.4 per cent of the sector or 60.5 per cent of the market total. Bank of Jordan had 39.8 per cent of the sector or 30.7 per cent of total; Islamic Investment House 13/10 per cent; Arab Bank 11.9/9.2 per cent; National Bank of Jordan 8.5/6.6 per cent, and Jordan Securities Corporation 5.2/4 per cent.

Industry

Industrials occupied 17.7 per cent of total handling, a decrease of 4.5 points compared to their market share last week. Five out of 26 companies occupied 61.4 per cent of the sector, or 10.9 per cent of the total.

Jordan Petroleum Refineries had 24.2 per cent of the sector or 4.3 per cent of the total; Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Company 11.3/2 per cent; Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing 10.6/1.9 per cent; Jordan Cement Factories 8.5/1.5 per cent and Intermediate Petrochemicals 6.8/1.2 per cent.

Services

The services sector occupied 2.9 per cent of total handling, a decrease of 5.4 points. Two out of seven companies occupied 72 per cent of the sector's handling or 2.1 per cent of total; Jordan Electricity Company with 53.7 per cent of the sector or 1.6 per cent of total the market and National Company for General Investments with 18.3/0.5 per cent.

Insurance

Last came the insurance sector, occupying 2.2 per cent of total handling. A decrease of 0.7 points. Two out of nine insurance companies occupied 55.3 per cent of the sector's handling or 1.2 per cent of the total. They were General Insurance, with 31.1 per cent of sector or 0.7 per cent of total and Jordanian Insurance, with 24.2/0.5 per cent.

The stock of 58 companies was handled during the week. Price declines outnumbered advances 25-20. Gainers included Paper and Cardboard, closing at JD 2.150 up from JD 2.030, Jordan Gulf Bank at JD 2.970 up from JD 2.820, Al-Quds Insurance at JD 2 up from JD 1.910, Arab International Hotels at JD 0.710 up from JD 0.680 and National Shipping Lines at JD 1.640 up from JD 1.580.

Price declines affected, among others: Arab Financial Corporation closing at JD 1.880 down from JD 2.220, Arab Insurance at JD 1.910 down from JD 2.020, Arab Aluminium Manufacturing at JD 0.560 down from JD 0.590, Jordanian Industrial Investments at JD 1.220 down from JD 1.280 and General Insurance closing at JD 3.460 down from JD 3.600.

Thirteen companies showed no change in their stock value. In the over-the-counter market about 220,000 shares were handled at a market value of JD 163,000.

The weekly record

- A. Stock showing a price increase
- B. Stocks showing a price decrease
- C. The mean record figure

The summer of Islamic banking

By Robert Poullot
Star Economy Analyst

THERE WERE no drums, nor trumpets. Ramadan was over and as usual, the Saudi kingdom had been deserted by key leaders and businessmen.

A royal decree issued by King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz authorised the powerful Al-Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange and Commerce to "engage in banking activities in accordance with the Islamic Sharia."

The news was outstanding simply because years of pressure, vain solicitations and fruitless consultations had been carried out to convince first the Ministry of Commerce, which was in charge of supervising all exchange dealers throughout the kingdom, and then the Saudi Monetary Agency (SAMA), from early 1982, to issue licences for Islamic banks.

And nobody was expecting a positive reply to come so soon, especially at a time when SAMA is undergoing a sweeping change of top officials under Acting Governor Sheikh Hamad Saud Al-Sayari.

The call for Ijtihad

The move, liable to cause a profound impact on Arab banking and finance in the years to come, raises crucial questions shortly after King Fahd made a dramatic call at Mecca in front of representatives of 43 Islamic countries in late June to renew Islamic juristic interpretation or Ijtihad.

"The suspension of Ijtihad since the 10th century led to the decline of Islam," said the monarch. "Today, you are facing several events and questions without any answer, despite the number of Ulema (theologians). And you are afraid to tackle the realities of life."

In conclusion, proposed King Fahd, "thorough studies" must be made of the Sharia, the Islamic law issued from the Qur'an and the Sunna (tradition) of the Prophet, in order to adjust civil, political, judicial and economic conditions under which live 800 million Muslims to modern times.

Undoubtedly, the two events are closely related. But Islamic banking, banning the use of interest (Riba), is not completely new in Saudi Arabia.

The Islamic Development Bank, established in 1975 after five years of preparatory work and studies, was created in order to operate according to the Sharia. Yet, it is a multi-state-owned organization operating as an Islamic aid fund and was involved for many years — though marginally — in interest-bearing operations due to a lack of know-how in Islamic financial techniques.

Moreover, as an aid fund member of the Kuwait-based Co-ordination Secretariat of Arab/Opec concessionary assistance organisations, it never intervened on the commercial marketplace as such, let alone dealing on the Saudi banking scene.

That is why the green light given to the Al-Rajhi Group is so important. Not only does it mean that Saudi savers and businessmen will soon be able to bank officially with an Islamic commercial institution (they have so far been dealing unofficially with a large network of private offices set up by Prince Mohammed Al-Faisal Al-Saud on behalf of Dar Al-Maal Al-Islami of Geneva), but it also opens the doors to a handful of applications currently pending at SAMA.

The key questions

Now the questions:

First of all, how soon will Al-Rajhi Group, which reportedly manages assets edging close to \$5 billion, move into formal Islamic banking activities?

With nearly 150 branches spread around the kingdom, there is only one strategy that can be followed, one of full implementation as opposed to gradual branch-by-branch Islamisation. And that could take a year, perhaps two according to some Islamic bankers' analysis. It is one thing for a moneychanger to call himself an Islamic banker, and another to train his staff. The difficulty of the conversion is compounded by the fact that there is yet no legislation in Saudi Arabia allowing for Islamic financial operations.

The next question is, once Al-Rajhi gets the official licence, how could SAMA refuse to grant similar authorisations to other Islamic institutions or project applications?

Will it trigger a run on Riba-commercial banks to transfer deposits in Halal (Islamically acceptable) banks? And if this is the case, wouldn't SAMA be compelled to induce existing Riba-banks to convert gradually or totally to the Islamic banking system? In short, the whole transition of the Saudi banking system is at stake, and financiers are eager to know how the major reshuffle now taking place at the monetary agency will affect this process.

Another intriguing issue is why was the first licence awarded to the Rajhi Group and not to Prince Mohammed Al-Faisal, who has been requesting a green light ever since 1970.

Al-Rajhi's background

The answer is probably political. But concentrating on Al-Rajhi, SAMA keeps a full control over a national institution whereas Prince Mohammed would resort to Dar Al-Maal Al-Islami (DMI), of which he is a major shareholder, a trust established under special indenture in the Bahamas but with its operation headquarters in Geneva. And though DMI is under Saudi equity control, it already has 22 affiliated institutions in the Caribbean, Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

But Al-Rajhi Group is not a newcomer in Islamic banking. Sulaiman Abdul Aziz Al-Rajhi, who controls 42 per cent of the family partnership set up in 1978 to own Al-Rajhi co. For Currency Exchange and Commerce, is a significant shareholder himself of DMI. In March 1980, he bought 500,000 shares at \$2.25 each for 15.38 per cent of the Islamic Investment Company Limited (IICL), the embryo of DMI.

And following the purchase of the assets held by IICL (now known as the Islamic Financial Holders Ltd.) By DMI at the beginning of 1982, Sulaiman Al-Rajhi's initial investment has grown to be worth nearly \$13 million.

During that same year, the Rajhi Group established Al-Rajhi Company for Islamic Investments Ltd. In London, under the management of Elie Al-Hajj, a former vice-president for the Middle East at the Philadelphia National Bank. The company is used to recycle the main group's foreign currency surpluses through trade financing and leasing with top multinational corporations, under conditions complying with the Sharia.

Sulaiman, the manager of the largest Middle East exchange operation, is a very devout Muslim himself. His organization doesn't charge or ask for interest in its dealings in the Saudi kingdom even with Riba-banks, a feature which made his group extremely popular with the more religious and traditional Saudis.

The same rule applies to most other exchange dealers. No wonder then that Abdul-Rahman Bin Abdul Aziz Al-Rajhi, Sulaiman's youngest brother who owns Al-Rajhi Commercial Establishment for Exchange, wrote to King Khalid in the late 70s asking for a licence to establish an Islamic bank with a capital of \$60 million.

The way Sulaiman Al-Rajhi, one of the world's wealthiest businessmen with a personal fortune estimated at well over \$1 billion, plans to tackle his new challenge together with his brothers is to convert his company into a public investment vehicle with a capital of \$218 million, of which 43 per cent would be offered on the Saudi capital market. The new institution could then venture directly into Islamic banking or establish a wholly-owned affiliate.

Whatever course is chosen, the experience will be the most fascinating one in the financial history of Saudi Arabia.

SSC director promises full insurance coverage for workers by 1985

AMMAN — Social Security coverage will extend to all Jordanian workers by 1985, says Social Security Corporation (SSC) Director-General Farhi 'Obeld.

Mr. 'Obeld told The Star that the SSC programme of action was under way now, after the corporation's establishment by a law of 1978. It is confining its coverage to health insurance for now.

"We are basically an investment body," Mr. 'Obeld said. "We first started operating gradually. That is, we applied our insurance coverage to a 'model group' of 20 companies, banks and institutions with a total of 7,000 employees. Later we extended Social Security to cover workers in every establishment employing at least 100 people."

"On 1 October 1980 insurance was extended to all establishments with 50 or more employees, along with all workers for ministries, government departments and institutions — including municipalities — except for people who were already covered by the Civil Pension Law."

Mr. 'Obeld said Jordan was in an advantageous position in comparison with most other Arab states, as far as Social Security is concerned.

middle east

'Jewish settlements are obstacles to peace'

By Abdulsalam Massarueh
Star Washington Correspondent

ON TUESDAY, 2 August, Ambassador Charles Lichenstein, assistant to Jean Kirkpatrick, voiced a Security Council resolution which called for the dismantling of illegal Jewish settlements in the West Bank. The resolution also dealt with the wanton barbaric massacre perpetrated by Zionist colonists in Hebron.

When John Hughes, the spokesman for the State Department, came to the daily briefing on Wednesday, 3 August, he was ready to deliver a long statement, which reached the conclusion, as it is fitting in the eyes of the all the players in the Reagan Administration, that "the demand for the dismantling of Jewish settlements in the West Bank," (which are considered by even many Israelis an obstacle to peace) is "an impractical demand."

Disbelief

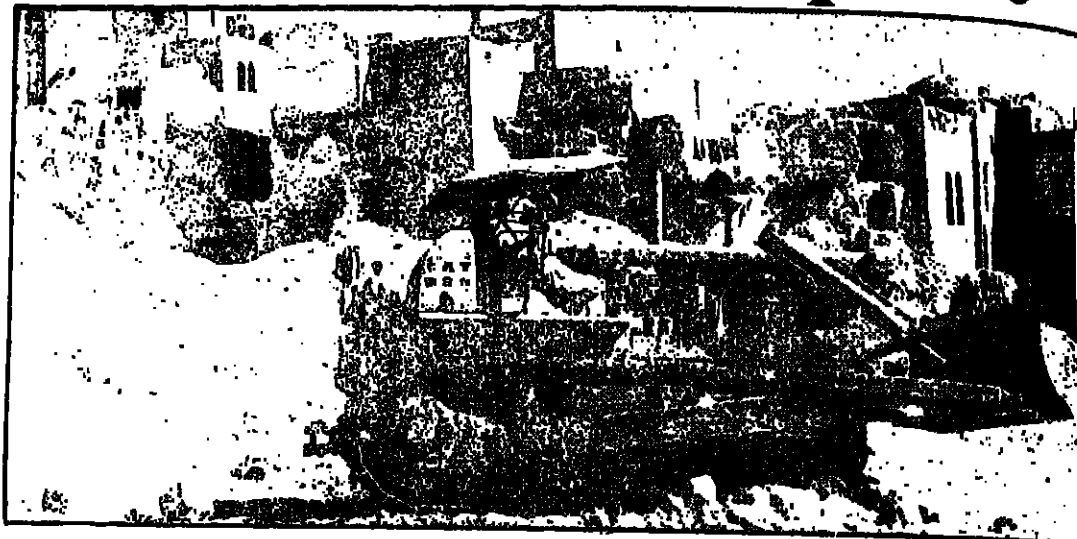
Many American journalists could not believe what they heard at the briefing room of the State Department. The discussion and the debate which the phrase "an impractical demand,"

have generated embarrassed Hughes and forced the State Department's Press Office to issue a followup.

In the addition to Hughes' early statement, the State Department repeated a phrase from a speech at the UN by ambassador Lichenstein and said: "We do not believe it is at all practical or even appropriate to call for the dismantling of the existing settlements. The future of the settlements is one of the key issues which will need to be addressed in negotiations."

On Thursday, 4 August, Secretary of State George Shultz came to brief reporters and make a few announcements about a major shakeup in the State Department's near east department. He announced the demotion of Nicholas Veliotis and his appointment as ambassador to Egypt, and his replacement with Richard Murphy, US ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

According to many Western analysts the three words, "an impractical demand," just indicate the change in the approach and concept of understanding that the Reagan Administration



A bulldozer pulls down Arab buildings to make room for more Jewish settlements.

tion is developing toward the Israelis and their campaign of expansion and the creation of more facts on the ground.

These analysts also reiterate the total acceptance by the US, the Israeli opposition in the matter of the withdrawal of Begin's forces from the Shouf

mountains area in Lebanon, and the redeployment of its forces to the Awali river. This fact alone bolstered all fears of many Arab and Western diplomatic circles of the partition of Lebanon.

The ease in which Moshe Arens and Yitzhak Shamir got from Reagan and Shultz in forcing their position and gaining the approval of Washington is a yardstick to Washington's total surrender and acquiescence for the Israeli schemes and plans. Any further promises and pledges that Washington is trying or labouring through its new horse, Robert McFarlane, in Lebanon, are promises and pledges that indicate the credibility gap in Washington and the many lies that US officials are

spreading in the Arab world about "good intentions."

Observers believe that the concept of the Reagan Administration in the issue of the settlements is encouraging the Israelis to continue building more Jewish settlements and ignore the presence of these villages, as the ambassador at the UN was telling a whole world. The truth about settlements, which Israel is getting direct support from the US to build, erect, are two thirds or even more empty, because Israelis who are building up, after the Lebanese quagmire, are realizing that the land on which settlements are built are stolen land from West Bank Arabs, and the settlements are obstacles to peace.

Uncensored report enrages Israeli lobby

WASHINGTON (Star) — Controversial and revealing information contained in an uncensored version of the General Accounting Office (GAO) report on U.S. aid to Israel has outraged Israeli supporters in the United States at the same time it has generated interest among the US news media.

ADC acquired an uncensored version of the report, printed several thousand copies of it in early July and mailed one to every member of Congress and to hundreds of journalists. Within a few days, the GAO issued a public statement repudiating its own report and said that it would take the matter of ADC's releasing an uncensored version to the Justice Department for consideration. The 9 July New York Times, in an article discussing the GAO report, however, reported that "an administration official who read parts of the American-Arab group's version said it sounded authentic." ADC issued its own statement defending the authenticity of the report.

United Press International (UPI) sent an article about the report's findings to its subscribers. Syndicated columnist Roland Evans and John Novak, while not mentioning ADC as the source, discussed the GAO report in an article that appeared in the Washington Post. Israeli officials in the United States were so concerned about the report that the minister of economic affairs at the Israeli embassy, Dan Halpern wrote a reply to Evans and Novak that appeared in the 14 July Washington Post.

The GAO report was originally sent to Secretary of State George Shultz in March and was suppressed by the State Department for several months. Finally, a heavily censored version was released, but it was only when ADC published an uncensored version did any public debate about the high cost of funding Israel take place.

'Save Lebanon' cares for more children

WASHINGTON (Star) — "Save Lebanon," the humanitarian and medical relief project of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), has sent eight more Lebanese and Palestinian youths from Lebanon to the United States for specialized medical treatment.

The group which is the fourth arrived in New York's JFK airport on 2 August. The Executive Director of ADC, James Zogby, said with this group, the number of wounded sent to the US by "Save Lebanon" is 36.

Five medical facilities will be involved in the treatment of these young people.

GCC members to sign security pact

KUWAIT (Star) — Gulf Co-operation Council member states are due to sign in Doha in October the unified Gulf Security Pact. Reports said the ministers of interior of member states would sign the pact which is to be ratified later by the leaders of the Gulf states.

The Gulf Security Pact was amended several times in the past in order to "match the security requirements in the area." The pact is considered one of the most important achievements of the GCC after the conclusion of the economic agreement which was enforced last month. The contents of the pact however remain undisclosed.

Iran makes moves to end Gulf war

By Star Kuwait correspondent

KUWAIT — A report by the Kuwait News Agency quoted an anonymous diplomatic source in Tunis as saying that the Iranians have asked the Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi to urge members of the Gulf Cooperation Council to renew efforts aimed at stopping the Gulf War. The report carried by Kuwait's seven newspapers came at a time the two belligerent countries' forces were engaged in one of the fiercest clashes since the war.



Chadli Klibi

But to the astonishment of many observers in the Gulf area, the official circles in the oil-rich countries withheld comment, publicly or in private, on the item. It would be recalled that the GCC member states despatched earlier this year Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in UAE Rashed Abdallah to Baghdad and Tehran on "reconciliatory" mission. The two Gulf officials visited both countries and returned with nothing due to the intransigence of the Iranians.

Iranian religious leaders had demanded three preconditions to enter into negotiations with Iraq over the war. The Iranian conditions were rejected by Iraq. The Iranian preconditions required among other things the upholding of the Iraqi regime headed by President Saddam Hussein, compensation by Iraq to Iran for war damages in Iran and punishment of Iraq as the aggressor.

Iraq has so far showed readiness to negotiate with Iran in order to bring the war into a halt and bring peace to this vital area of the world. But Iran has been passive despite numerous international appeals and efforts.

Two charged with smuggling alcohol

LONDON (KUNA) — The British government is to seek confirmation from the Saudi Arabian authorities about the reported conviction in the Kingdom of four Britons on alcohol smuggling charges, a foreign office spokesman said Tuesday.

"We have no knowledge of the case and we are endeavouring to find out," the spokesman added. Two of the four men involved were said to have been sentenced to four years imprisonment and 600 strokes from a cane for plotting to import and distribute up to nearly \$900,000 of whisky.

The other men were reportedly given shorter prison sentences and 480 and 240 strokes of the cane respectively. "We wish to confirm whether these sentences have been passed," the spokesman went on. It is understood that two of the men were sacked by their employer in Saudi Arabia, the British Aircraft Corporation, four months ago, after they admitted the initial alcohol-related charges.

middle east

Kuwait finance minister resigns

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwait's Finance Minister Abdul Latif Al-Hamad has resigned, government sources reported Tuesday. Oil Minister, Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al-Sabah, has been assigned to handle the Finance Ministry in Al-Hamad's absence. Sheikh Ali had already been acting finance minister, though it was not clear if he would be assuming the post now.

No reasons were given for the resignation of Al-Hamad. For some six months now, Al-Hamad has made his opposition clear to current thinking in the Cabinet on how to solve the country's stock market problems. Last September, Kuwait's unofficial Souk Al-Manakh stock exchange experienced a crash, precipitated by the over-use by stock exchange dealers of the post-dated cheque as a method of payment in forward share dealings.

When prices collapsed 11 months ago, some \$94 billion were notched up in forward transactions — all by post-dated cheques. Since then, the domestic economy of Kuwait has been in limbo, as local traders tried to assess each others' worth. The stability of the banking system has been questioned.

A total of 42 Deputies, of the 50 Members of Parliament, attended Tuesday morning's session, which was called by the Emir to debate a legislation designed to alleviate the plight of several thousand stock exchange dealers caught up in the crisis. The Cabinet was represented by 15 ministers.

Al-Hamad had interrupted his holiday, came to Kuwait at the Emir's orders and, according to finance ministry sources, left for London the same day after tendering his resignation.

Meanwhile, financial sources said that the governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait, Hamza Alhas, was also resigning.

As the implications of the Al-Manakh crash became known newspapers reported that bigger speculators have been facing deficits running into billions of dollars, and Al-Hamad had wanted them to pay the full penalty of the law. But the government and the Emir were said to be of the opinion that such a hardline attitude would jeopardize the very economic structure of Kuwait and its merchant community.

Under previous laws, 1,680 persons would have gone bankrupt, said the pro-government English-language newspaper 'Arab Times'.

Although local newspapers highlighted Al-Hamad's resignation, a high official declined to confirm this.

In Jordan, "Ahlan Wa Sahlan" is more than a greeting. It's a way of life!



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Come to Jordan with Alia. Our people have treated Caesars and Pharaohs like royalty. We can do no less for you.



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Lebanon opposition grows stronger

By Aernout Van Lynden

BEIRUT (IONS) — When news of the formation of a new opposition front to his government was flashed to him at the end of his five-day tour of the United States, Lebanese President Amin Gemayel dismissed the move derisively. It was, he assured an audience of Lebanese Americans in Detroit, nothing but soap bubbles which would disappear soon.

"They are trying to make people believe it is an opposition from within. Rather it is an opposition from a foreign helicopter, a new form of conspiracy which they are trying to dress up in a Lebanese garment," the President said in a reference to the fact that Druze leader Walid Jumblatt, who officially launched the 'National Salvation Front', had arrived in Lebanon from Damascus in a Syrian Army helicopter.

Quite apart from Jumblatt's mode of transport, the Syrian connection is indeed strong. Both former President Suleiman Franjleh and ex-Prime Minister Rashid Karami, the two other senior political figures who have joined Jumblatt, have for long had close ties with the regime in Damascus.

The opposition of the three leaders, who are further backed by a half-dozen minor leftist and pro-Syrian parties, crystallised at the beginning of May when the Lebanese-Israeli treaty on the withdrawal of the Israeli forces was agreed. Edged on by Syria the three-some vehemently opposed the accord as a dire infringement of Lebanese sovereignty and a threat to Lebanon's place within the Arab fold.

The setting up of the front and in particular of six departments responsible for such diverse matters as provincial affairs, economy and finance and military affairs, has led to charges that a separate administration has been created, serving only to legitimise the continued Syrian occupation of the north of the country and Bekaa Valley to the east.

In his office in Tripoli, the northern port which has always been the power base for the Sunni Muslim former Prime Minister, Rashid Karami angrily rejects such suggestions. "Why are neoplatonists creating an opposition in these important and difficult times? This is surely normal in a democracy! We are a legal opposition, not an alternative government."



Franjleh



Karami

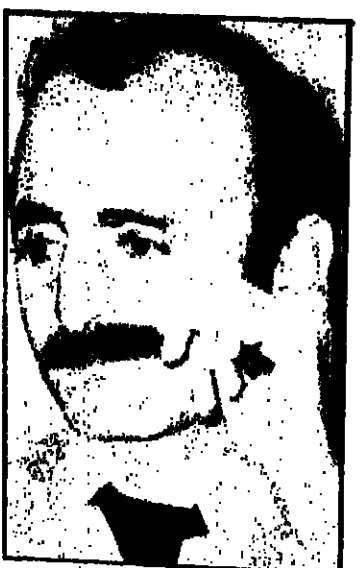
Karami's office harks back to the Fifties and Sixties when Karami was Prime Minister on no fewer than eight occasions. Faded portraits of leaders of the past — Nohru, Nasser, Eisenhower — line the walls, reinforcing the impression that for Karami himself the 'golden era' belongs to the past.

That is most certainly so in the case of Suleiman Franjleh, the Maronite former president. It was during his term of office that Lebanon disintegrated into civil war. Since then he has been isolated in his own fiefdom which stretches from the coast just south of Tripoli up into the central mountain range.

Franjleh's connections with Syria go back a long way. He used to go hunting with the Assad family long before the brothers Hafez and Rifad came to power and he sees it as only natural that Lebanon and Syria are closely allied. "We are neighbours, with close ties — culturally, economically — you cannot cut away that reality. We must have close relations with them. This is perfectly normal."

While that is a contention questioned by many Lebanese, Franjleh's criticism that President Gemayel has allowed the Christian Phalange to prosper while refusing to come to some form of national accord which would limit the power of any single confession or political group, certainly enjoys ever more widespread support.

The failure of the Gemayel government to act against the Phalange has, during the past weeks, led the militant Shia leader Nabih Berri to come out openly against the Lebanese-Israeli accord and agree to co-operate with the



Jumblatt

of the front and Gemayel's caustic attacks on it may have made reconciliation that much more difficult. Both sides seem to have realised this. In recent days the President has toned down his remarks, saying he welcomes all democratic opposition.

And the three opposition leaders have been at pains to stress that, for the moment at least, they are not considering any military action against the government.

palestine

Hebron murders threaten West Bank conciliation

By Arie Haskel

JERUSALEM (ONS) — The joy of Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir in persuading the Reagan Administration to go along with Israel's partial withdrawal in Lebanon is tempered by apprehension about the West Bank.

Investigations of the killings at Hebron's Islamic university increasingly point to Jewish extremists being responsible for three deaths and 30 wounded. This raises the question whether Arens' gamble in appointing a new co-ordinator for the West Bank and Gaza Strip will pay off.

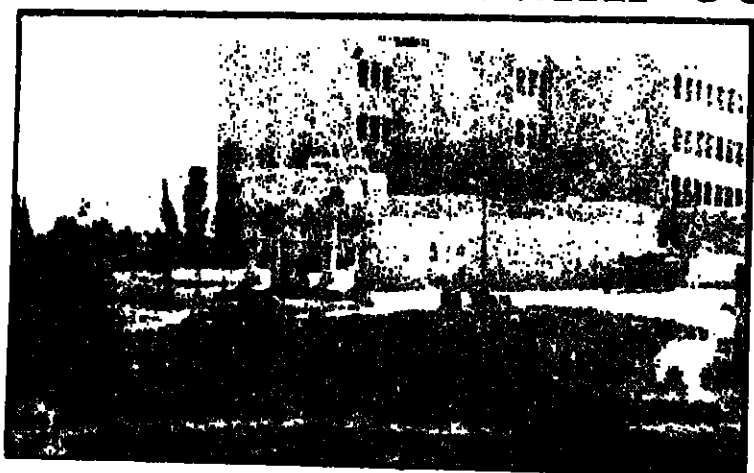
The co-ordinator, Benjamin Ben-Eliezer, was appointed just nine days before the masked gunmen burst on to the campus of the shining new university built with Israeli seed-money and now accommodating 1,700 students.

The campus remains sealed off and police and secret servicemen are sifting every piece of evidence. At first they thought it could be an inter-Arab crime but now have second thoughts which are shared by 95 per cent of West Bank Arabs and a growing number of Jewish Israelis.

The change of heart was helped along by two things: an Israeli reporter's revealing that the day before the attack he had been told revenge would be taken "very soon" for the murder two weeks earlier in Hebron of a Jewish theological student; and the statement issued by Rabbi Meir Kahane's ultra-right-wing Kach movement which said it would not condemn Jews "who take up arms to take revenge" and that the government should protect Jewish lives "by removing the Arabs from the country".

Although Jewish settlers at Kiryat Arba, which adjoins Hebron, deny all knowledge of the crime, individuals there admit they were not sorry "because it will show the Arabs they're not wanted here".

Arens' gamble in appointing Ben-Eliezer was whether this man, who was military governor of the West Bank, can reconcile his strongly held views of the job with the current policies of the Begin government. Ben-Eliezer holds the reserve rank of brigadier. He spent 27 of his 47 years on active service, commanded crack units and is credited with being a major architect of Israel's alliance with the



The deserted university campus after the attack.

Christian Phalange in Lebanon (the late President Bashir Gemayel was a close friend).

Iraq-born, he speaks fluent Arabic and during his term as West Bank governor won the respect of many of the inhabitants. Bethlehem's Mayor, Elias Freij, says: "He got to know many people and gained a lot of experience. During that time we witnessed tolerance in the administration of the military government and I believe he will be an asset in trying to rebuild bridges

of confidence between the Arab people and the Defence Ministry."

Ben-Eliezer, best known by his Arabic childhood name Fuad, has come out strongly against policies introduced by the man that the former Defence Minister, Ariel Sharon, appointed to succeed him — Hebrew University Orientalist Professor Menachem Milson.

Village leagues

Chief of these was the creation of 'village leagues' intended to lay the

foundation for the West Bank's army envisaged at Camp David. Scattering dismisses these as a public opinion and distancing of inhabitants from the authorities.

Ben-Eliezer says the league sent only themselves and a tiny minority of the most passive and people: any true leadership has to come from the towns. Taking a pragmatic approach, he says, means that the population must be helped to develop leadership to replace the PLO, and cannot be rushed. "The process in the Arab world takes time."

Freij, who has never renounced PLO, nevertheless concedes Yasser Arafat's failure to come to agreement with Jordan in April was a tragic mistake which will cost the people of the West Bank very dearly.

Freij is the only important West Bank municipal leader still in office. They were all elected in 1976 but by one have been dismissed, mostly the period after Ben-Eliezer left the military government. He thinks there should be reserved as the weapons and hopes to replace the officers appointed to run most municipalities with local Arabs so that credibility of municipal government can be restored.

Palestinians condemn attacks

WASHINGTON (Star) — The Palestine Information Office in Washington has issued a statement on the killings shooting incident at the campus of the Islamic University in Hebron in which three students were killed and 28 others injured.

The statement said such unprovoked slaughter of unarmed Palestinian students inside a University campus ushers the mature stage in Israel's occupation. It is an awesome reminder of Israel's resolve to bring about a "final solution" to the Palestinian question.

"The Palestinians have been calling attention to the ordeal of their people living under a most cruel occupation, which deprives them of their land and resources, destroyed their institutions, and denies them their liberty. Now they find it necessary to call attention to an on going holocaust, to a campaign of physical extermination."

It has been generally recognized that continued Israeli occupation of Palestinian lands is an impediment to peace and stability in the Middle East. "It is time to recognize its murderous potential and bloody consequences. When Israel manages to whitewash a genocide in Sabra and Shatila, the killings in Hebron becomes a logical consequence."

Refugee students win scholarships

AMMAN — Three young Palestinian refugees have been awarded scholarships for the 1983-84 school year by the United World Colleges (UWC).

This brings to thirteen the number of Palestinian refugee students who have been awarded scholarships since 1976. Of the number, five are from Jordan, three from the West Bank, two from Gaza and three from Lebanon.

United World Colleges is a private organization established in 1962 to promote international understanding and peace through education. There are six UWC schools in various parts of the world and a seventh is being planned for Venezuela. Students at each school come from a wide variety of nations and races.

To attend one of the colleges, a student must have an excellent academic record and a very good command of the English language. Scholarships cover tuition fees and boarding. Travel costs are included if parents cannot afford to contribute. Most refugee students come from families unable to provide financial help, although they are encouraged to provide some assistance.

UNRWA Newsletter

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The Sabra/Shatila whitewash

PART TWO

Editor's note: This is the second and final instalment of the extracts from Noam Chomsky's forthcoming book "The Fateful Triangle" which highlights the infamous massacre of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila camps in Lebanon. Following the incident, the Israeli government set up a commission of inquiry to investigate the killings. The findings of the commission implicated some top Israeli government officials in the massacre.

BEFORE INQUIRING into this question, it should be noted that it is rare of any government to investigate an atrocity for which it bears responsibility, or which it conducts outright. In the United States, for example, only the My Lai massacre, which was merely a footnote to the record of American atrocities, merited a governmental inquiry. In the course of the Vietnam War, and even that more than one could expect from most states, including those that are "civilized" by their own account.

Nevertheless, the report of the Israeli Commission of Inquiry is disgraceful from an intellectual and moral standpoint, though one would not know this from the accounts in the American media.

The Kahan Commission stated that "the main purpose of the inquiry was to bring to light all the important facts relating to the perpetration of the atrocities; it therefore has importance from the perspective of Israel's moral fortitude and its functioning as a democratic state that scrupulously maintains the fundamental principles of the civilized world."

The central section of the report, dealing with "The Direct Responsibility," opens as follows: "According to the above description of events, all the evidence indicates that the massacre was perpetrated by the Phalangists..." The section goes on to state that "no other military force aside from the Phalangists was seen by any one of the witnesses in the area of the camps... It can be stated with certainty that no organized military force entered the camps at the time of the massacre." "No basis was found" for the "rumours" that "Haddad forces were involved; indeed, this is 'inconceivable' with the Phalangists in the venture." "We can therefore assert that no forces under the command of Major Haddad took part in the



Survivors of the massacre still live in their bullet ridden houses

Phalangists' operation in the camps, or took part in the massacre."

The participation of Haddad forces would be considerable embarrassment for Israel since they are virtually a part of the Israeli army and are expected to play a central role in the new order that Israel intends to establish in Lebanon. The opening sentence, quoted above, is true but rather misleading. In the "above description of events," and apparently in its deliberations as well, the commission was scrupulous in avoiding the evidence that runs counter to Israeli government claims on this issue, apart from a few passing phrases dismissing it without inquiry. In fact, there is extensive evidence of the participation of the Haddad forces, and where the commission did choose to investigate, it regularly found that the government's claims were false, and indeed that its "incorrect and imprecise reports intensified the suspicions against Israel and caused it harm."

The Israeli witnesses also proved to be of limited credibility, as the commission noted. The proper procedure, clearly, would have been to review the evidence of Haddad participation and inquire directly into the composition of the forces that entered the camp by interrogating the leadership and even the participants. This should not have been beyond feasibility, given that "we could give them orders," as Chief of Staff Elkan stated with reference to the Phalange while explaining why they were chosen to enter the camps instead of the Lebanese army.

The commission simply avoided the topic, apart from hearing the testimony of Haddad, who, like everyone else, denied involvement. Perhaps an honest inquiry into these facts would have led to the finding that although there is extensive cir-

cumstantial evidence based on a wide variety of eyewitness reports that Haddad forces were involved, nevertheless the conclusion is incorrect. Instead of inquiring into the matter, the commission chose to renounce any intent to "bring to light all the important facts," and to make it clear from the outset that it was abandoning its mandate.

The commission was careful to lay out the ground rules for its investigation. With admirable caution, it refrained from concluding that "from a legal perspective" the territory occupied by the IDF in West Beirut was "occupied territory." Thus the IDF was absolved from any of the legal obligations of occupying armies. The commission also stated that there is no basis for the accusation that the IDF had "prior knowledge" that a massacre would take place. There is "no doubt" that no individuals from the "Israeli political echelon" were engaged in any "conspiracy or plot" with the Phalangists "with the aim of perpetrating atrocities in the camps."

On the basis of assurances provided by these "echelons," the commission determined that what they said was true. "We assert that in having the Phalangists enter the camps, no intention existed on the part of anyone who acted on behalf of Israel to harm the noncombatant population and that the events that followed did not have the concurrence or assent of anyone from the political or civilian echelon who was active regarding the Phalangists' entry into the camps." It need hardly be observed that the review — testimony from the people involved — is simply a further indication that the report is not intended to be taken seriously among rational people.

Nigeria: Confusion erupts over electoral roll

By Ad'Obe Obe

LAGOS (ONS) — Nigeria's rather smooth transition from 13 years of military dictatorship to democratically elected government in 1979 was hailed as evidence of the political maturity of the nation, 19 years after shedding its colonial yoke.

Four years later, Nigerians are not sure, and they make no secret of it. In a typical lamentation over their political condition, a newspaper columnist opined that whatever the outcome of the coming elements, 'the nation will not be the winner'.

There are six political parties fighting for the support of 65 million voters. They will vote four times in a polling jamboree that will last four weeks. Voting began on 6 August.

The parties are the National Party of Nigeria (NPN), the Nigeria People's Party (NPP), the Greater Nigeria People's Party (GNPP), the People's Redemption Party (PRP), the Unity Party of Nigeria (UPN) and the Nigerian Advance Party (NAP), which joined the race this year.

The fight is for the control of the federal executive, two federal legislative assemblies, and the executives and legislatures of the 19 states. In the 1979 contest, under the US-style constitution of the second republic, President Shehu Shagari's NPN was victorious at the centre as well as controlling seven state governments. The UPN followed closely with control of five states, and the other parties won in at least two states each.

Manifestos

Today the parties seem to agree that the literacy of the majority of voters makes it unnecessary to produce intelligent manifestos. One party has no manifesto, and the others' manifestos are

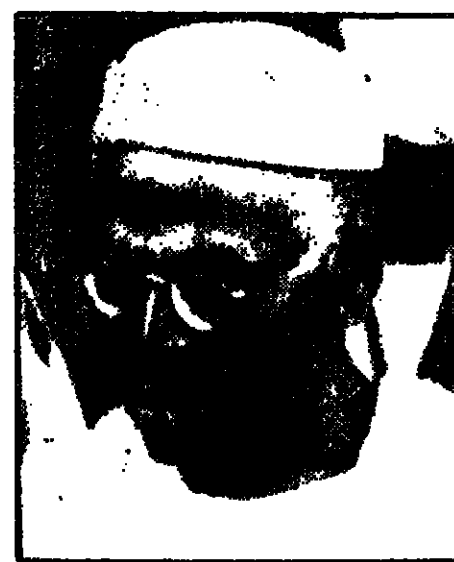


Shehu Shagari: National Party of Nigeria

thin, vague, full of photographs and ideologically indistinguishable. It is possible that the parties are trying to commit themselves as little as possible on paper, preferring verbal promises that are easier to deny in times of trouble.

Promises, as the Nigerian electorate now knows, are what electioneering is all about. The assumption, comments the leading daily, 'National Concord,' appears to be that our level of literacy, our incurable clannishness, our articulated acquisitive instincts would force all voters to stand akimbo and gaze skywards at the six balloons containing nothing but promises without questioning the realism behind these promises.

This election is taking place at a time of acute austerity. A year of tough economic measures has led to shortages of food and other essentials, forcing up the price of some scarce items many times. Tyres, for instance, are seven times more expensive than a year ago.



Chief Awolowo: United Party of Nigeria

The Nigerian Labour Congress, representing 47 labour unions, reckons as many as a fifth of its members have been laid off. And, in protest at the non-payment of workers all over the country, the NLC threatened a national strike on 31 July, a week before the elections began.

In spite of the politicians' incessant excuses and pledges to increase and improve everything the common man perceives evidence that, for the politicians, politics is about acquiring wealth by looting the national coffers. Several politicians have become millionaires, and personal jets have been taken over from big Mercedes cars as a status symbol.

Moral decline

In a cynical election glossary, 'Punch' newspaper defined a legislator as 'one sent by his people to live in a government-furnished house and who spends his time looking for contracts. In his spare time he makes laws.'

A student coined 'contractocracy' as a definition of Nigerian government: 'Government of contractors, by contractors and for contractors.' Certainly the country is the loser in the inflated cost of government contracts. Millions are some-

times paid for contracts that are never executed at all. Nigerians are in no doubt where their oil money has gone.

President Shagari has been seen to be making efforts to stop the moral decline by setting up an 'Ethical Revolution Committee,' but this has not helped the image of his party, which has acquired the nickname of the Naira Party of Nigeria, the naira being Nigeria's national currency. The naira was a determining factor in the 1979 elections and will be again this year. It is no secret that many Nigerian votes go to the highest bidder. The big difference this time is that, unlike 1979, the voters have the records of the parties to consider. Ethnic loyalties will again be crucial in the elections. So important is ethnicity that all parties have promised to create more states to give the different tribes more autonomy; 51 request for new states have been received.

Free and fair elections

A lot will of course depend on how successfully the Federal Electoral Commission (FEDEC) carries out its task of ensuring free and fair elections.

As in 1979, it has provided the parties with cause to doubt its ability. All the parties have questioned the accuracy of the figure of 65.3 million voters. The figure is an increase of 34 per cent on the total registered for 1979, but the increase is not uniform. In one state, Kaduna, the number of voters is up by 94 per cent, while in another state, Plateau, the total is down by 12 per cent. The parties are demanding explanations for these wide variations.

Governor Bola Ige of Oyo says one town in his state has 52,000 registered voters, although the population is 15,000. There was a public outcry when the voters list first went on display in April this year. Many people found their names missing. Governor Mbakwe of Imo state could find neither his name nor that of any person in his clan of 500 people.

Recent newspaper reports of people being arrested for illegal possession of ballot papers and voting cards seem to confirm the suspicion that the coming elections will not be as free and fair as possible.

Soviets lend tentative support to Contadora, motives unclear

By Andrew Rosenthal

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union appears to be leaning toward a regional peace effort in Central America, but analysts say it's not clear whether it will fully endorse the Contadora group or use it as a new stick to beat the Americans with.

So far, there is no sign the Kremlin intends to take a more overt role in Central American negotiations, beyond its public support for Nicaragua and Cuba, Western analysts said in recent interviews.

While Washington alleges that Soviet arms are being shipped to Central America in increasing quantity, Moscow publicly lends only verbal encouragement to the government in Managua. Typical of such statements was the reiteration of support last weekend during a visit to Moscow by Nicaraguan Junta member Jaime Wheelock.

The official News Agency TASS reported that at a meeting, Central Committee officials Boris Ponomarev and Karen Brutents voiced the consistent solidarity of Soviet communists with the just struggle of the Nicaraguan people to defend national sovereignty, revolutionary gains and independence.

By singling out Contadora as a prospect for resolving the bloody conflicts in Central America, some observers suggested, the Soviet Union has a new vehicle with which to heap criticism on Washington.

Should the four-nation groups, Mexico, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia, moves fail, Moscow will be able to blame the United States for

not putting its full weight behind Contadora, said one analyst.

After a weekend meeting in Panama City, Central American leaders were optimistic, but offered little hope of a breakthrough.

The United States has said it welcomes all regional peace efforts, but is at odds with the Contadora countries over their call for an end to arms shipments to the region and withdrawal of foreign troops.

TASS said the United States seems to support the initiatives of the Contadora group... But in reality it rejects any talks and is getting ready for direct armed intervention in the region.

The Contadora group was formed last January on the Panamanian island Contadora. After virtually ignoring it at first, the Soviet press has grown noticeably warmer in recent months, said a Western diplomat who asked not to be identified. Another Western expert on Soviet-Latin American affairs added, there certainly has been a warming, although it's too cautious so far to call it any kind of firm endorsement.

The newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya, organ of the Communist Party's powerful Central Committee, carried a history of Contadora credited to Mexican journalist Antonio Costa. The article said the Contadora nation's feared Vietnamization of Central America by the United States. It concluded: Considering the composition of the participants of the Contadora group, it will not be easy for it to succeed. But hope remains, which shouldn't be lost.

Mozambique, US mend relations

By Rosalind Pilcher

LONDON (ONS) — Relations between Marxist Mozambique and the United States have improved dramatically in the past two months. On 2 June a major oil exploration contract was signed by Esso Exploration (Oceanic), a subsidiary of Esso Corporation, and the National Oil Company of Mozambique, the first such agreement with the US since Mozambique's independence in 1974.

Then, earlier last month, President Reagan named a new US Ambassador to Mozambique, a position that had been vacant since four US embassy officials were accused of spying and expelled from Mozambique in 1981.

The gradual warming of relations began 10 months ago, when Mozambique's Foreign Minister visited Washington and expressed interest in mending fences. Washington sources report that since then Mozambique's President Samora Machel has assisted the US in the Namibia negotiations and has given assurances that he will neither call in Cuban troops to help in the country's guerrilla war, nor offer the Soviet Union base facilities.

Equally encouraging for the US has been Mozambique's attitude to Esso. Mozambique changed its law to protect Esso from double taxation. In addition Esso will be allowed free export of profits, and customs duties will be waived. An adviser involved in the negotiations called the agreement "one of the best deals in Africa."

Subject to confirmation, the new ambassador will be Peter Jon De Vos, a 45-year-old career foreign service of-



Samora Machel



Reagan

ficer with extensive experience in Africa's two other Portuguese-speaking countries, Angola and Guinea-Bissau, as well as Brazil. He was Deputy Director of Southern African Affairs at the State Department under President Carter, and is viewed as sensitive to the concerns of Marxist-type governments. The US has also returned Mozambique's overtures by increasing food aid to the country.

Mozambique's motivation is simple. It desperately needs economic and diplomatic assistance. The economy grew by under 3 per cent from 1979 to 1981, below the birth-rate, and growth fell by more than 4 per cent in 1982. Industrial production is now less than half that of pre-independence year.

This year the worst drought in half a century has cut food production by

over 70 per cent in the southern half of the country. In addition Mozambique is fighting a bloody guerrilla war against the Mozambique National Resistance, said to be backed by the South African government. President Machel clearly hopes Reagan will be able to stop this destabilisation campaign.

Washington's motivation is equally practical. The US views Mozambique as a voice of reason in the diplomatic circus of southern Africa. Machel used his influence to get Robert Mugabe to agree to the Lancaster House settlement in Zimbabwe.

The US now hopes Machel can play a similar role with the Angolans by persuading them to send Cuban troops home, thereby meeting US and South African conditions for a Namibia settlement.

African, Non-Aligned states press for earlier Namibian independence

By Michael Kallenbach

UNITED NATIONS (ONS) — At a time when diplomatic efforts to secure the independence of Namibia are stalled African and Non-Aligned countries are working behind the scenes to empower UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to take over from the Western Five Contact Group.

At the same time, the United States, aware of present manoeuvres underway in the Security Council, has stated publicly that it wants to create a new climate of confidence in Southern Africa.

The US is the key member of the Western Contact Group — the others being Britain, France, Canada and West Germany — which has been working since 1978 to bring independence to the former West German colony, which South Africa occupies in defiance of various UN resolutions.

Since the start of this latest debate in the Security Council, the Reagan administration has been heavily criticized for being "too friendly" with Botha's Government in South Africa.

Since coming to office, the administration has consistently backed Pretoria's claim that all Cuban troops must first leave Angola before the UN independence plan — set out in Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978 — can get underway.

Nevertheless, general agreement exists here that once the Cuban troop issue, referred to as the question of "linkage", is resolved, only two other problems need to be solved.



Sam Nujoma

These are the composition of UN force, United Nations Truce Assistance Group and the type of electoral system for Namibia.

Against this background, US Secretary of State George Shultz, who is trying to dispel fears that the administration is siding with South Africa, came to New York for his first meeting with Swapo leader Sam Nujoma.

He also met other key African ministers attending the debate, including members of the Front line states as well as Nigeria.

Nujoma's organization, the South West Africa People's Organization, considered by many at the UN as the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people.

Tanzanian herdsmen protest collective village idea

David Musoke

KAMPALA (ONS) — Efforts to hasten rural development in Tanzania by setting up collective villages have unleashed violent social conflict. President Julius Nyerere's administrators now find themselves faced with uncontrollable — and spreading — unrest.

Detailed reports on the consequences of the policy are rare, since information is firmly controlled in the capital. These have accounts emerged during a conference last month at Kampala's Makerere University on the theme 'Change and Instability in Africa.'

Distillers since the late Seventies in the Tabora and Sinyanga areas, south of Lake Victoria, were cited as an example of the trend. The conference was told that the upheavals caused by creating new villages had broken many of the old communal ties. Violent crime had soared as people of distant clan groups had suddenly found themselves living close together.

Antagonisms were swiftly stirred up among what had been semi-pastoral people with strong traditional beliefs in witchcraft. In one district, youths formed a semi-secret 'army' to hunt down cattle rustlers.

'Killings became the order of the day', the conference was told by Dr Henry Mapolu, from a research institute in Arusha, Tanzania. 'The illegal army went around burning down the houses and other property of all known and suspected cattle thieves.'

In response, Tanzanian security forces had taken the 'unprecedented step' of stationing troops in every village. Despite the presence of paramilitary police, cattle rustlers publicly announced in Tabora the formation of an

'Association of Cattle Rustlers' and went on the rampage.

Since attempts to control the situation had clearly failed, the 'unofficial citizens' army was last year given the blessing of the authorities. Today it operates openly. 'This was obviously an admission that the police force and the militia were no match for social forces that had been unleashed,' Dr Mapolu said.

The collectivisation programme was aimed at resettling Tanzania's entire rural population in large, planned centres, by removing the villagers from their scattered and often isolated homes. Between 1973 and 1975 as many as nine million people were shifted. By 1976 it was asserted that practically all rural Tanzanians were living in 'development villages'. The early optimism has long since turned sour.

The declared objectives were to enable the government to provide the whole rural population with essential social services — particularly water, primary education and medical services. The government argued that the less people lived in large settlements, the more it would be possible to provide such facilities for all.

However, there has been much criticism of the way in which 'villagisation' was carried out. In some cases coercion was used, in others the land chosen for settlement was unsuitable. It is claimed that at times too many people were squeezed into new villages.

All these troubles have brought about widespread resentment among the rural population, leading to open opposition to the ruling party and the government. The long-term effects will probably be apparent in the damage to the social fabric than in higher food production.

'Congress should be above Arab-Israeli dispute'

Continued from page 1

It is basically a fact as we look at the population in Israel or in the occupied territories, that although the increase in population across the board for Arabs is 4.2 per cent the actual increase is only 1.2 per cent, the remainder being forced out of the occupied territories. The physical increase of the Oriental Jews is about 2.2 per cent in Israel and obviously domination in numbers as well as in political influence and resource control is a principal reason for the move into the Lebanon.

The Lebanon move meant the control of the water resources in the southern Lebanon area and the continuation of what Israeli journalist Uri Avneri described as the fait accompli between Syria and Israel. That has existed since 1978 with the Syrian zone of influence in the north and centre and the Israeli zone of influence in the south, leaving the Lebanese government in control of little more than the area of Beirut and its immediate environs. The reality of today is better, but if this reality is allowed to set in and if Mr. Shultz's repeated assertion that the partial withdrawal is not a prelude to partition of Lebanon is disproved — if, in fact, the partial withdrawal basically is a reorganization of the occupation of the Lebanon by its two large and powerful neighbours — then I think this situation concerns us directly, because this minority mosaic and breakup is not going to be characteristic of Lebanon alone, but may well be characteristic of the area as a whole.

As for the Phalange or the Pasdaran movement in Iran, or the Gush Emunim movement in Israel, they are cases of populist movements — Christian, Jewish and Muslim — tearing at the very fabric of sovereign states in the area. There is the danger of the breakup into smaller and smaller building blocks of the Near East area.

Q. Since Jordan is on friendly terms with the United States, what are you doing, other than the obvious, to bring to the attention of the American people the needs of the Arab World and not just those of Israel?

A. We are dealing on a continuous basis with the US administration in terms of trying to edge the administration closer to a definitive position on the priorities to which I referred, and those are of course the ending of belligerency based on the withdrawal of the Israeli military presences from Lebanon and the occupied territories leading to negotiations. It means ending the process of change, arresting the settler movement and taking into very serious consideration the violation of international law that these settlements constitute.

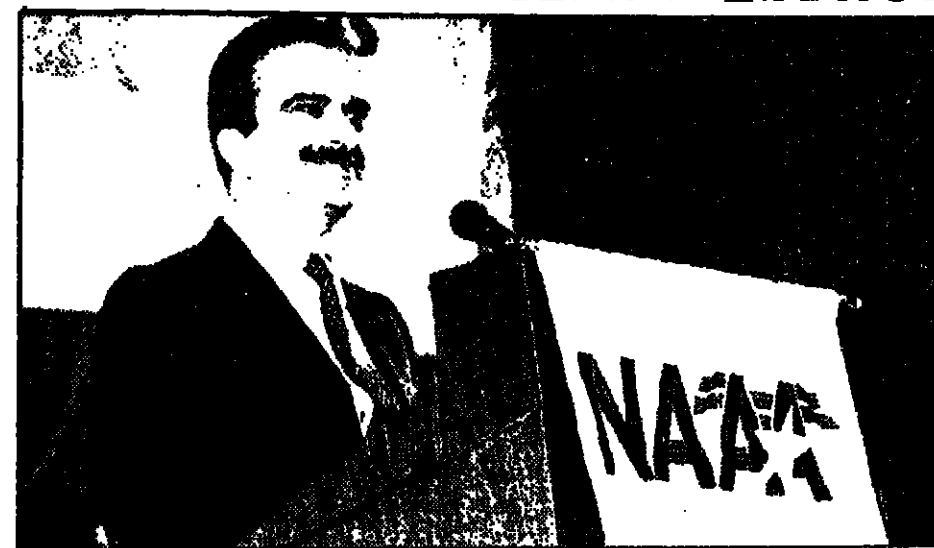
But the last position of the administration was reiterated by a very ambiguous and contradictory statement by US representative to the UN, Mr. Lichenstein in justifying the veto at the Security Council. On the one side he accepted the Hague Convention and the Fourth Geneva Convention, and referred to settlements as an obstacle to peace. But at the same time he made it clear that condemning the settlements process was so much rhetoric, and felt that direct negotiations were the only hope for peace in the area.

The fact, I think, was made quite clear by a Herald Tribune reporter when he said rather eloquently that Arab weakness is not Israeli strength, and to force the facts of the occupation on the Arab population in those territories as well as on neighbouring countries, without taking the minimal step of reaffirming the US position based on UN resolutions, reminds us of the fact that the US even vetoed not so long ago the reaffirmation of UN Resolution 242 which is very damaging blow to any rapport we may have with the administration.

Our relations are not limited to rapport with the administration; they go into the field of our discussions with Congress, and there we find ourselves at a total disadvantage for the simple reason that we are not a lobby.

We believe that the US Congress should be above the Israeli-Arab dispute. In defining what American priorities are, not priorities tilted toward Israel or the Arabs necessarily, but priorities exercised by a power with a role which stems first and foremost from politics where people matter.

What we have seen for the last several years is politics where strategy matters. What we have seen is the growth of the neoconservative school in the United States which says that investment in Israel is less expensive than investment in the Ra-



Crown Prince Hassan addressing the NAAA meeting in Washington in May

pid Deployment Force, and consequently what we have seen is a gradually growing disregard for politics where people matter. There can be no moderation without representation.

Q. You made reference earlier to the upcoming presidential election which plays a primary role in the making of US foreign policy. Is there anybody in the Congress, either in the Senate or the House of Representatives that stands by the Arab cause without being affected by this Golden period that some say we have been giving the Israelis?

A. We feel that many people in both the House and the Senate believe in their hearts, in the need for peace in the Middle East; but are they prepared to stand up and be counted?

I came to the United States in May of this year to deliver a message from His Majesty to the National Association of Arab Americans, in which I called for a bipartisan peace constituency. And stepping forward and being counted means just that.

Commitment to Israel during an election year should not be an abstract across-the-board commitment, but should rather be a commitment tied

to the political condition of greater flexibility in moves towards peace.

Q. Is Arafat going to be able to retain control of the PLO?

A. We believe that the symbolic commitment that he made during our discussions to the peace process is a very valuable one. But whether or not he will be able to retain control of his organization is a matter that will certainly be developing in the coming few weeks.

Q. Then of course whether he does or not makes a totally different picture in the Middle East?

A. Not only is that the case but it is also a fact that while this agony continues in terms of the representation of the Palestinians through the PLO, the fact is that public opinion is changing in the occupied territories themselves. The Israelis are gradually withdrawing their support for the Village Leagues. The left is controlling centres of opinion, particularly in the universities, and the goal of the fundamentalist religious right on the other side is polarising that main constituency of Palestinians under occupation; and this is a very worrying factor to be considered.

"Commitment to Israel during an election year should not be abstract but tied to the political condition of greater flexibility in moves towards peace."

to the political condition of greater flexibility in moves toward peace.

If you consider assistance figures: Israel's debt today is over the \$22 billion mark and according to recent reports it is over the \$26 billion mark. Assistance to Israel carries no political considerations with it whatsoever. American development assistance to Jordan last year was \$10.7 million, and the total assistance to Jordan was less than \$100 million. Assistance to Syria is in the neighbourhood of \$165 million and American trade with Saudi Arabia for one year alone was over \$7 billion.

Q. How do you answer this to yourself when you wonder about this?

A. I can only answer it to myself with the feeling, regretfully, that the middle ground role of the smaller communities that represent moderation in this area, or could represent moderation, is expected to dwindle and that polarisation is meant to take its place. The middle ground role of the Lebanese has been severely restricted by physical occupation, the middle ground role of the Palestinians has been restricted by direct physical military involvement, and the middle ground role of the Jordanians has been constricted by the fact that a context for peace negotiations has almost been undermined by the facts on the ground.

I would say also that the middle ground role of the peace constituency in Israel has been undercut by extremism, and it seems to us that the trail of thought that sees direct polarisation between Israel and its zones of influence on the one side and the Soviet Union and its interests on the

Q. Do you think that the Palestinians will ever get their homeland back, or do you think that there is a chance instead to have self-determination in the West Bank, but not have their homeland? Will they be part of Jordan or part of Israel?

A. I believe that unless the United States, which after all is the only motivator of superpower policy concerned with peacemaking, holds true to its word in considering what Shultz described as the "human dimension" of Palestinians under occupation, they will be the subject of continuing oppression in the territories as well as potential expulsion from these territories.

They are a convenient political pawn for everyone in this area, and our commitment, from the UN Resolution 242 in November of '67 to this day, has been to reinstating their independent identity in those territories.

Some people have described the possibility of peace on the basis of a commonwealth of nations — a Benelux. If the occupied territories are meant to evolve into a Luxembourg between Israel on the one side and the Arab world on the other, they stand very little chance of doing so. I don't mean economic credibility, because I don't believe Israel is viable on its own economically, but politically and socially as well.

As for Jordanians and Palestinians, they have proven themselves in the pre-1967 period in the field of co-operation between the West and the East Bank, and we were heading towards an economic take-off.

Q. Is Jordan feeling the world economic recession? How are other problems of brain drain and

import and export of labour affecting Jordan's economy?

A. We have half a million graduates of the Jordanian educational system working in the Gulf — Palestinians and Jordanians — and before the ILO conference in 1977 I proposed (and my proposal was adopted by the general assembly) the concept of a labour compensating facility. What I meant is basically that unless and until we the countries on the periphery of the oil-producing Arab world plan and develop our manpower needs and requirements jointly, it is going to be very difficult for the supplier to meet the demand. We export our basic product, which is the qualified human being, to neighbouring areas and we import as a result Egyptian manpower, for example, to substitute our own export of Jordanians to the Gulf.

We have said time and again that it would be worthwhile considering, in the context of the Arab economic decade, enunciated in 1980 at an Arab summit conference held here in Amman, a strategy for complementary manpower whereby Jordan will gradually evolve into the role of the centre of excellence or the Singapore of the area.

The West Bank is being used, as Israeli Prof. Benvenisti, once referred to it, as an ancillary economy to the Israeli economy. This fact affects us directly because on the one side we extend financial assistance to the occupied territories but on the other hand are subject to the pressure placed upon us by the occupation, particularly the demographic pressures.

On the other side we find another situation in the Gulf countries, where we are exporting manpower. The returns in remittances alone increase prices, inflate the economy and yet do not assist us in generating our own economic development other than limited instance of developmental plans.

What is required is the ability to invest in the industrialisation forces and to develop Jordan into a centre of maintenance. We have identified tens of industries which those neighbouring countries require, but which of course require manpower. Unless and until those neighbouring countries indicate to us clearly where their demand for manpower begins and ends, it would be very difficult for us to begin building the manpower pyramid.

We have 110,000 students today at college and university level all over the world. But in terms of university graduates we are suffering a surfeit, which means unemployment for doctors and engineers is beginning to become a reality in Jordan. Unless we begin in a very short period of time to rebuild our manpower pyramid it will be very difficult indeed to afford to pay caring expenses for a large number of civil servants.

Q. What sparked your personal interest in the humanitarian field of work? How can you find time to co-ordinate between this field and other political, social and economic fields?

A. Some people say that committing oneself in abstract to the humanitarian field, as the European humanists did in the late 19th century, is the most one can do in linking humanitarian considerations to the day-to-day reality, particularly when you are a very convenient target close to the centre of power as my position is. But I always felt that unless we break away from the stereotypes of this part of the world as affluent, rich and uncaring nations about the concerns of others, I think it will be very difficult for the Arabs — and for the matter the Muslims, by wider definition — to become a part of the dialogue of civilisation.

Subsequently, I think, those views have to be shared. At the Cancun conference the non-oil producing Arab world was not represented, and as a result stereotypes prevailed. The dialogue was only between the industrialized world and the oil-producing countries. I believe like Shirley Williams, the British social democrat, that politics should only be exercised where people matter.

Q. What is the greatest contribution you have made to Jordan thus far?

A. I would say that it has been in relating to my generation of expertise in different fields of specialization — the educational, economic and sociological fields — and in getting people to think again, particularly after the 1967 war. That period, when I had just returned from the university, between '67 and '72, was one of the most lonely periods for the simple reason that hope had almost been lost for reconstituting a modern Jordan.

I think we have come a long way in the last ten years. Of course the process is linked to the will-power of the Jordanian community.



SWITZERLAND — The funeral of famous British actor David Niven at Oex Castle. It was attended by members of his family and friends. Among the mourners was Prince Rainier of Monaco (fifth from left) (Keystone)

Cuban general for Nicaragua

CUBA SUPPORTS the Nicaraguan regime in its efforts to bring the country under totalitarian control and has sent there the man who has had the most suitable experience in this field: the general who organised the struggle against the resistance movements in Angola. This is what the Cubans mean by "the struggle against imperialism".

The stationing in Nicaragua of the most talented Cuban military leader, General Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez, shows on the one hand the seriousness of the crisis now faced by the Sandinista regime and on the other hand the extent to which the Cubans are prepared to go in supporting the Sandinistas.

General Sanchez was a key figure in the Cuban interventions in both An-

gola and Ethiopia in the late seventies. His arrival in Managua has caused increased anxiety amongst Nicaraguans, particularly since there are already 2000 Cuban military advisers in the capital. These have offices in all strategically important ministries and are controlled by the Cuban Ambassador, Julian Lopez Diaz, who is a senior officer of the DGI, the Cuban security service. General Ochoa Sanchez will be working in close cooperation with Ambassador Lopez Diaz in his efforts to save the Sandinista regime. For the moment, however, there is little risk of a direct armed intervention from Cuba.

The increased Cuban presence is not the only sign of greater Soviet interest in Nicaragua. On 18 April, Brazilian customs discovered a large Soviet T-55 tank and BM-21 launchers for rockets with multiple wa-

reheads have been delivered to Nicaragua.

At the beginning of March, Daniel Ortega, the most prominent member of the Sandinista Junta, took part in the Conference of Non-Aligned States in New Delhi, and on his way back he visited North Korea, Mongolia and the Soviet Union where he was received by Yuri Andropov "in an atmosphere of friendship and full mutual agreement".

Important information about Communist activity in Nicaragua has been obtained from the dissident, Miguel Bolanos Hunter, who took part in the late dictator Somoza. He was later an adviser to the Chief of the Sandinista General Staff and held an important post in the Nicaraguan security service.

Swiss press review.

The Jerusalem Star

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Jordan's political role

IN HIS interview with The Star this week His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan asserts Jordan's position in the Middle East as one originating from the country's belief in a middle ground role. In his own words Jordan's policy is shaped in a way in which people, not short-term strategies, matter first. Jordan has proved its positive and open commitment to the Palestinian cause throughout the history of Jordanian-Palestinian relationships.

But he also reveals that because of Israel's policies in the region, condoned one way or the other by the United States which engineers its policy in the area on its investment in Israel, based on its strategic outlook, the "middle ground" characteristic of Jordan, Lebanon and the Palestinians is being contained and even threatened. His Highness chooses the example of Lebanon, where a mosaic formation is taking place with Syria controlling northern Lebanon and Israel the south, leaving Beirut and its surroundings under the Lebanese government's control.

We believe that the Crown Prince's call upon the United States to redefine its policies and reorder its priorities in the area is long overdue. If the United States ignores this call and give Israel a free hand in its dealings in the area under the cover of US strategic interests, then the mosaic phenomenon will undermine not only the stability of the area but also the long-range interest of the United States.

One way that the US can exercise its influence on Israel is through the rationalization of its commitment to Israel. Commitment to Israel, as the Prince says, should not be an abstract, but should be tied to the political condition of greater flexibility in moves toward peace.

On the other hand while Israeli policies in the area go unchecked by its benefactor, conditions in the occupied Arab territories are worsening. The US view on the building of settlements is still confused and contradictory as expressed by the US representative at the UN last week when he called the dismantling of the settlements "impractical". Meanwhile, plans to evacuate thousands of Palestinian inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza are becoming a daily reality in the shadow of the growth of settlements.

The Crown Prince made it clear that it is for the United States to exercise its superpower role in the region and bring the whole matter to the negotiating table. It is also in the interest of the United States to preserve the active middle ground capacities that Jordan is offering.

Come to a grand festival

THE IDEA of another cultural festival, this time on an even greater scale than any that have gone before, is exciting. This year's Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts is so grand in concept, and so varied, that it seems it must have something for everyone. If it doesn't draw big crowds every day, that will be a disappointment.

That's the first thing we must say. The second thing to say is that while we should be disappointed, we shouldn't be surprised if that happens. All one has to do is recall the European Community Spring Festival earlier this year. That occasion brought some of the greatest performers in the world, and it happened right here in Amman. What happened? Not in every case but in many, the organisers found themselves facing half-empty auditoria that had been booked for high-quality shows at prices those performers could be expected to charge.

In the present case, surely this won't happen. The festival contains a much higher percentage of performances that are more popular, and some of them are already sold out. What's more, much of the festival — exhibitions, local folk performances — is free of charge after one pays the JD 1 entrance fee.

But during the Spring Festival, it was not only the highly priced shows that were poorly attended. Even the exhibitions that were set up for so long in the Royal Cultural Centre — charging not a penny for admission — looked like desolate wastelands after a few days.

The Jerash Festival is to last for nine days. Despite the provision of bus transportation at low cost, one must fear that many people will find it too inconvenient to go all that way for more than one day. And given the price of transportation, admission and several shows for a whole family, some people will actually not be able to do so.

It is our profound hope that inertia can be overcome and that the festival will bring a large number of people out to see the beauty of Jerash itself, apart from the special events there. We will certainly be there ourselves.



A Zoo is needed, but ...

To the editor:

It was interesting to read the article "Free the animals" (28 July) about the treatment of animals in Jordanian zoo. I would like to say that having something, even if it is not very good, is better than nothing.

Our children know about wild animals only through pictures and this is not the fault of the authorities. This "so-called zoo" will serve its mission for now.

I can understand why you chose to defend the animals in that particular zoo because of their miserable state, but I propose that a real zoo be established somewhere in Jordan — our land is full of natural resources — where animals are exhibited and treated in a well-studied manner.

J.K. Sami
Amman

Friendship call

To the editor:

I believe — like many others — that friendship is something valuable to people. Being a Jordanian citizen, I like to have Jordanian and foreign friends — a view which a good number of Jordanians share. Many English-speaking people, especially British and Americans, living in Jordan welcome having Jordanian friends.

I think it is very useful to your readers if you have a "friendship corner" — so to speak — in which you publish addresses or telephone number of people interested in making friends — Jordanians or foreigners.

Beginning with myself, I would like to have British or American friends living in Jordan or passing through it. I welcome any offer of friendship at my address P.O. Box (5282) — Amman.

With my best wishes to you and all readers of The Jerusalem Star.

Mousa Saleem Feen
Amman

Dear sir:

Although we will not be designating a special corner in The Star for pen friends, we will publish names and addresses of people who seek friends whenever we receive their letters.

The editor

Iman was not the only one...

To the editor:

I hesitate to prolong a rather tedious subject but I feel I must respond to Mureed Hamad's letter of last week.

The problems Iman Muhammad Afify spoke of in her letter (7 July) and which Mureed Hamad dismissed as fantasy in his, are the same as those my friends and I suffered from while we were students at the University of Jordan.

For four months we were stared at constantly and subjected to endless comments, some foolish, many downright rude, from our fellow students. This despite the fact that we were always very careful about the way we dressed and behaved.

In four months in the university dormitories never managed to watch a programme on television — every time the foreign students entered the television room the other girls felt compelled to scream with laughter and talk at the tops of their voices until we left.

It wasn't all bad, my room-mates were kind, generous and patient to a remarkable degree and I stayed on in Jordan and am happy working here. But Mureed Hamad does his country no favour in denying the truth of the problems we faced. It is only by facing them honestly that they will ever be solved.

(Name withheld upon request)

JERASH '83



The Forum by night (UNRWA photo)

The second Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts

12-20 August 1983

By Dr. Mazen Armouti
Festival Director

TRAVELLING MUSICIANS singing the folk tales of the land; local craftsmen selling their wares; children enticed by a puppet show; crowds hurrying to the theatre for the evening performance. This was the scene in Jerash in ancient times and this was also the scene in Jerash in October 1981 for three days when the first Jerash Festival brought life again to the old city.

For decades, such a cultural event had been the dream and hope of many Jordanians, but it was not until 1981 that the project was realized, spurred by Her Majesty Queen Noor who proposed the idea during the graduation ceremonies at Yarmouk University in 1980. Gradually, the idea gained momentum and the first Festival was held. Its goals were to enrich and enhance cultural life in Jordan and to serve as a prototype for future festivals.

The 1981 event was limited in scope. It was predominantly Jordanian, and featured only a few performances from foreign countries. Its success, however, exceeded all expectations: some 100,000 people attended; young and old, from all walks of life.

Encouraged by such a large turnout and positive feedback, the Jerash Festival Committee decided to enlarge the scope of the festival in future years. Thus preparations began for an international 1982 festival: His Majesty King Hussein approved the formation of a Higher National Committee chaired by Queen Noor to set policy and guidelines and to supervise the work of the executive committee and the task-oriented sub-committees, with membership totalling 150 people from the private and public sectors. All members work on a voluntary basis. Goals of the festival were reformulated to include the promotion of international understanding through inter-cultural communication.

However, preparations were halted as a result of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in the summer of 1982 and the human suffering it caused among the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

Work was resumed in 1983 for the second festival. We had to build an infrastructure which included the installation of cables and electrical wir-

ing, water pipes, theatre lighting, sound equipment, communication systems, restaurants and service facilities.

Since our goal is to promote inter-cultural understanding, we have tried to offer balanced representation of participants. Countries represented are: Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, N. Yemen, Kuwait, Lebanon, USA, Great Britain, France, Austria, Italy, China, India and Bangladesh. This in addition to local participation.

Moreover, the festival offers a large variety of activities catering to all tastes and age groups: arts exhibition, crafts bazaar, book show (100 publishers from Jordan and the Arab World), poetry and literature (participants from Jordan, Egypt, Yemen, Lebanon, Iraq and Syria), Jordanian folklore, classical music, pop music, classical and modern dance, folk music and dance, drama, plays for children, puppet shows, media presentations, Jordanian heritage fashion shows, films and buskers.

'From the ends of the earth they came': Now come to see them



Farida Fahmi of the Reda troupe on stage

THE REDA Folklore Dance Troupe of Egypt was founded in 1959, in what is described as "a natural outcome of the revival in fine arts which took place in Egypt after the 1952 revolution." According to its organizers, the troupe has met with outstanding success both at home and in all foreign countries it has visited.

With research, studies and hard work Mahmoud Reda, a graduate of Cairo University, choreographer and director of the troupe, has brought the vast heritage of Egyptian folklore to the stage.

"He has refined the dancing without changing its essence, and he depicts the hope, habits and sentiments of the people, with feeling, in great variety, forming a

repertoire of more than a hundred dances."

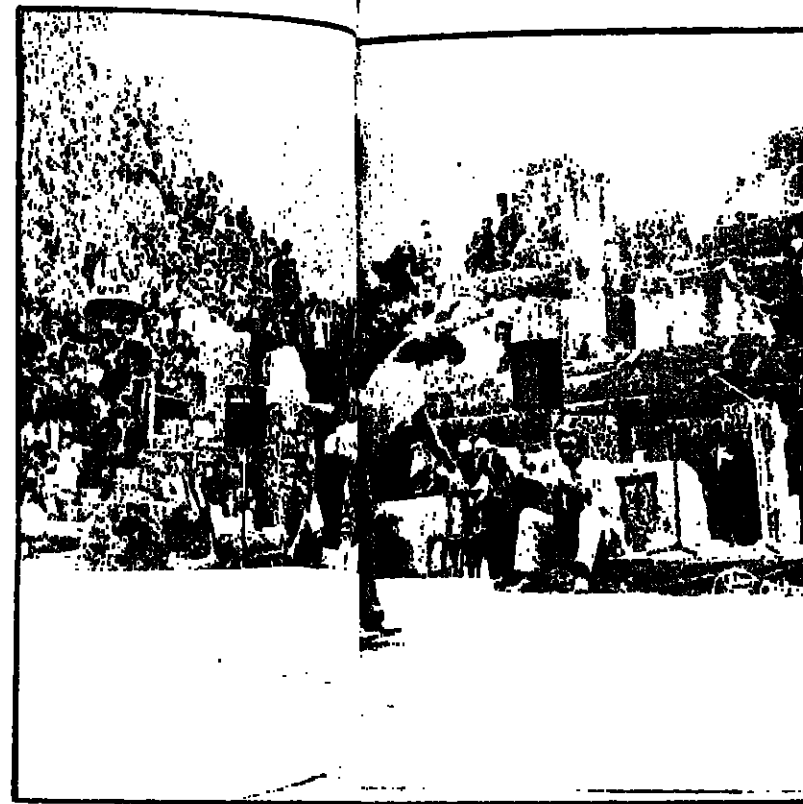
Mr. Reda is ably supported by dancer Farida Fahmi, also a graduate of Cairo University, and of Cairo ballet schools. She is a talented Oriental dancer, and under the direction of Mahmoud Reda is said to have "raised this type of dance to its highest level."

"The music of Maestro Ali Ismael, the most famous composer of Egypt, is intensely liked and appreciated by all. He combines in his orchestra both oriental and Western instruments and thus adds a wonderful and unusual charm to the music."

The Reda troupe will perform on 17, 18 and 20 August in the South Theatre.

THE 1983 Jerash Festival will be a gathering of international talent the likes of which Jordan has rarely seen. Top performers from many countries have volunteered to come, many of them at their own expense, to keep the show exciting from beginning to end.

The pictures and descriptions on this page give an idea of what can be expected from only a few of the many artists who will come.



Wendy Rogers draws a crowd at once in a Greek amphitheatre

THE HALL-ROGERS Modern Dance in the USA combines the efforts of Lucinda Weaver Hall, a solo dancer, and Rogers Dance Company from the Bay area in California. The repertoire includes a ballet "Jerash".

Miss Rogers, a native Californian, began her training at the University of California in Berkeley. During her five-year visit to New York City, she studied and taught.

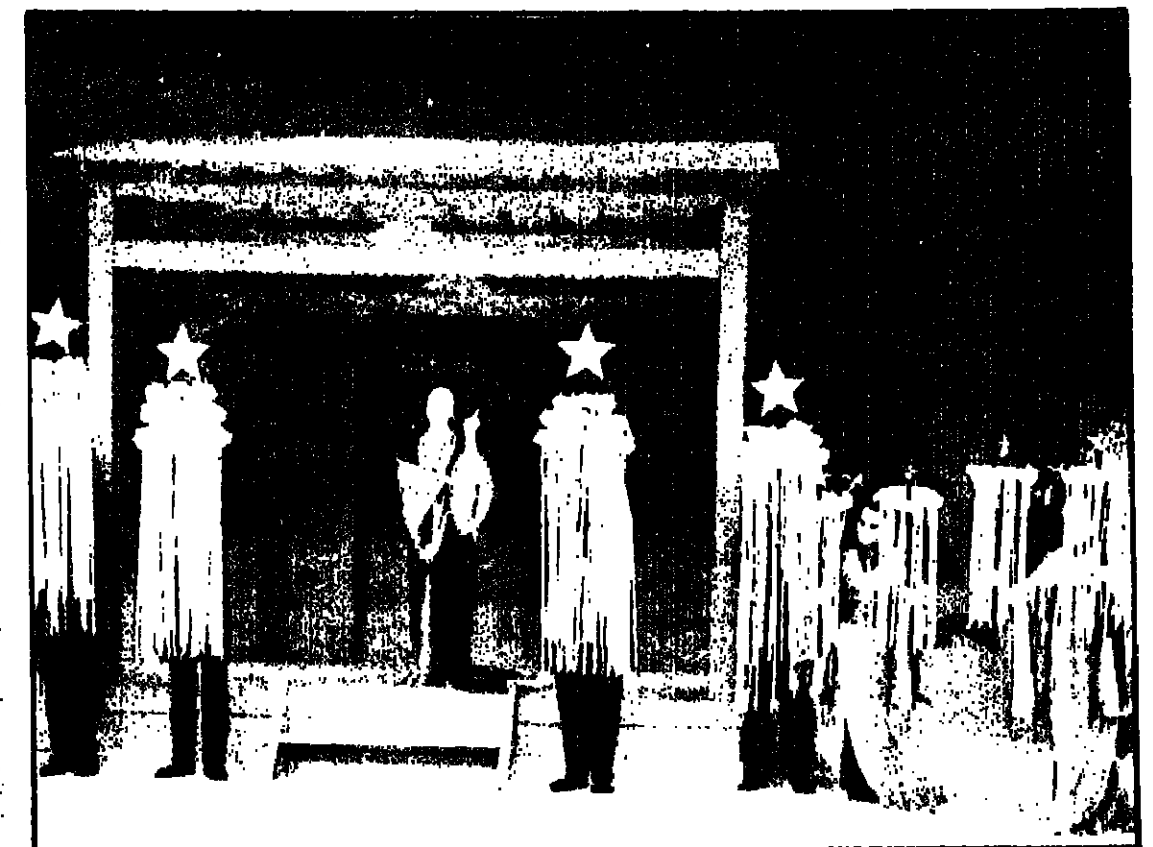
She then returned to Berkeley to her own company, which has built a local and national reputation for its innovative work.

Miss Rogers has explored several areas of modern dance, craft, imagination and emotional resonance. Her members dance with technical excellence through a full range of movement, from the slow to the frantic blur.

Sets and costumes are designed by Rogers and collaborating artists. Miss Rogers also performs "Solowork", a programme choreographed from 1974 to the present.

The Hall-Rogers troupe will perform on 15 August on the Artemis Steps.

EVEN IS of the festival are scheduled for the Forum, the monumental South Theatre and areas are specified, with most of the major sites. Other sites include the Sound & Light Theatre the Artemis Steps (in front of the temple of the Roman Jerash's old North Theatre), the Zeus (in front of the old Jerash Reservoir), the Colonnade (street of columns) and the Colonnade Vaults near the Forum, the Cathedral of the Artemis Steps during the 1983 Jerash Festival.



A scene from 'Sleeping Beauty' performed by the Empire State Institute for Performing Arts: The King orders the beginning of Beauty's sixteenth birthday celebration.

THE EMPIRE STATE Institute for Performing Arts was founded in 1978, and is based in Albany, New York. Its programme encompasses a wide range of activities including music, dance and theatre.

One of the areas in which the performers excel is children's theatre. A special production of the fable "Sleeping Beauty" will be put on in Jerash this year, combining what are described as "the highest performance and artistic standards." The director, Mr. Joseph Balfour, introduces an interesting concept: Presenting the fairy tale in a classic Japanese style.

The Japanese Kabuki dramatic technique achieves a visually beautiful presentation that incorporates more dance and mime than dialogue. The colourful Japanese costuming adds an attraction as well as a ballet-like atmosphere to the production.

ESIPA will perform on 13, 15 and 16 August in the South Theatre.



Costumed performers of La Ciampada Nissarda from Nice, France

LA CIAMPADA NISSARDA is only one of another eight troupes who are booked for the festival. China will send its amazing Hanjo aerobic team; Bangladesh a 32-member music and dance group; India the 25-member Parvatiya Kala Kendra; Italy the Folk Citta di Oristano group from Sardinia; the United States Doyle Layson and Quicksilver to perform bluegrass music, and the UK will send the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders with pipes, drums and Scottish dancing.

Most prominent among the Arab performers will be the world-famous Fatruz with her Lebneeso group; other Arab troupes will come from Yemen, Kuwait, Algeria and Tunisia.

Preparations for a grand event

BEHIND EVERY successful man there is a hardworking woman, so they say, and behind every successful festival there are months of planning, preparation and plain hard work.

Out at Jerash this week the festival staff have been busy putting the finishing touches, ready for the festival opening on Friday 12 August.

The Star caught some of the work in progress and spoke to those involved.

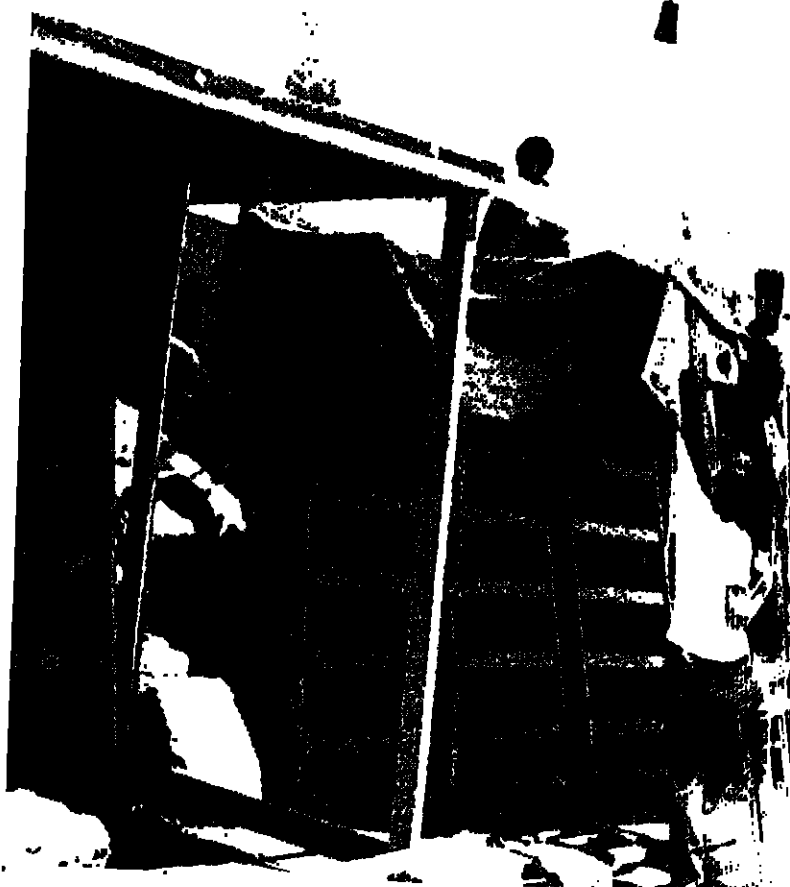
Miss Lina Nusseibeh, Jerash Festival Assistant Director said that all the technical preparation is now complete and the lighting, sound, electricity and camera equipment is all installed.

She said the Public Transport Corporation is co-operating with the Festival committee to help minimize traffic problems. Fifty buses will be available to carry visitors to and from the festival site. There are also two parking areas for private cars and there will be a shuttle service from the car parks.

Thirty kiosks and two restaurants have been prepared to provide food and drink and three press offices have been set up, one at the site and the others at the Regency Palace and Jerusalem Melia Hotels.

Overall the expenses for the festival are expected to amount to JD 400,000 and these are being covered by donations from public and private organizations. Yarmouk University has contributed JD 10,000 and Jordan Television JD 14,000. Grants have also been received from the Jordanian Armed Forces, and Alia, and the government has offered a loan of JD 150,000.

Workers on the site this week certainly felt that things were going well. One sweeper, Mr. Daoud Abdul-Majid said, "This festival is more organized than the first one and the committee has laid stress on cleaning so that Jerash will present a glittering scene." Mr. Salman Al-Hafiz, another worker, said, "This festival is very different from the first one. It is more organized, many additions have been made and efforts have been well paid. The directors are definitely aiming for success with this festival."



'A little more to the left...'



Below: This is the place for a book-store

'Off to work we go'

Photos:

Hassan Ibrahim



'Jerash will present a glittering scene'



Stage in search of actors



'Time for a well-earned rest'

VIEWPOINT

Don't try to justify the unjustifiable

By Ya'acoub Jaber

PALESTINIANS in the occupied territories are awaiting the next Israeli blow with mixed feelings of despair, fear and fatalism. The attack on Hebron's Islamic University about two weeks ago marked a new phase in an escalating terror campaign that will continue until the set targets are achieved. The Israeli extremists, who apparently have the upper hand in determining their government's policies, are being encouraged by lack of action by the world community as well as Arab incompetence.

Moreover, those extremists received a major boost with the US veto of a UN Security Council resolution condemning the assault on Palestinian students in Hebron and describing the Jewish settlements as illegal.

In an attempt to justify their government's veto, American officials released a flurry of confusing statements which, after careful study, suggest that the Israelis are doing the right thing and the rest of the world is simply mistaken.

For the US administration, the dismantling of Jewish settlements which have deprived the West Bank Palestinians of vital agricultural and water resources is not to be looked for. But if the dismantling of the Yarmouk settlement in the Sinai Peninsula under the US-sponsored Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty was possible, then why is it not feasible in an area of vital importance to the peace process?

And if Washington, as its official spokesmen have commented, does not believe that Israel is trying to expel Palestinians from the occupied territory, then will it kindly tell us what other purpose the series of attacks, curfews, indiscriminate arrests and systematic land confiscation could serve other than spreading panic and disrupting economic and social activities so that life might become extremely hard to tolerate for the defenceless Palestinian population.

Does Washington have an explanation for the fact that the attackers of Arabs always remain at large while the father of a Palestinian child who throws a stone at an army vehicle is immediately apprehended and both the father and the son are taken into custody?

The US could have saved us further bitterness had it shunned its apologies. The UN resolution was a modest attempt to attract world attention to the plight of Palestinians under occupation, in the hope that moral pressure could save a few innocent Palestinian lives. Even that meagre hope was not deemed worthy of thoughtful consideration by the American administration.

If the sought — for peace is to be final and lasting, it needs a solid ground for reconciliation. But while the Israelis are doing their best to undermine the prospects of reconciliation, the Americans are tacitly giving a hand to that subversive Israeli attempt.

And for peace chances to flourish, bitterness and hatred must gradually be removed under new humane conditions that can only be created through US pressure and active contribution.

ARAB NEWSPAPERS have reacted angrily to last week's US veto of a UN Security Council resolution condemning the Israeli attack on the Islamic University in Hebron and declaring that Israeli settlements in the occupied territories are illegal.

Other topics given prominence in press editorials this week include Lebanon, the mission of US envoy Robert McFarlane and the PLO crisis.

A newspaper in Abu Dhabi calls on Arabs to find appropriate means to face the consequence of the US veto, the most serious of which are the accelerated proliferation of settlements and a stepped-up terror campaign in the occupied territories.

"Israel will certainly use the American veto to escalate its crimes against West Bank and Gaza Palestinians after being reassured of the blessings of its US ally," writes the daily Al-Ittihad.

To foil Israeli plans, the paper urges an immediate end to inter-Arab disputes, strengthening of the Palestinian armed struggle and providing every possible support to Palestinians in the occupied land.

Another Abu Dhabi newspaper, Al-Bayan, says America has surprisingly chosen to alienate itself from the rest of the world community by strongly defending the Israeli crimes and endorsing the settlements as legal.

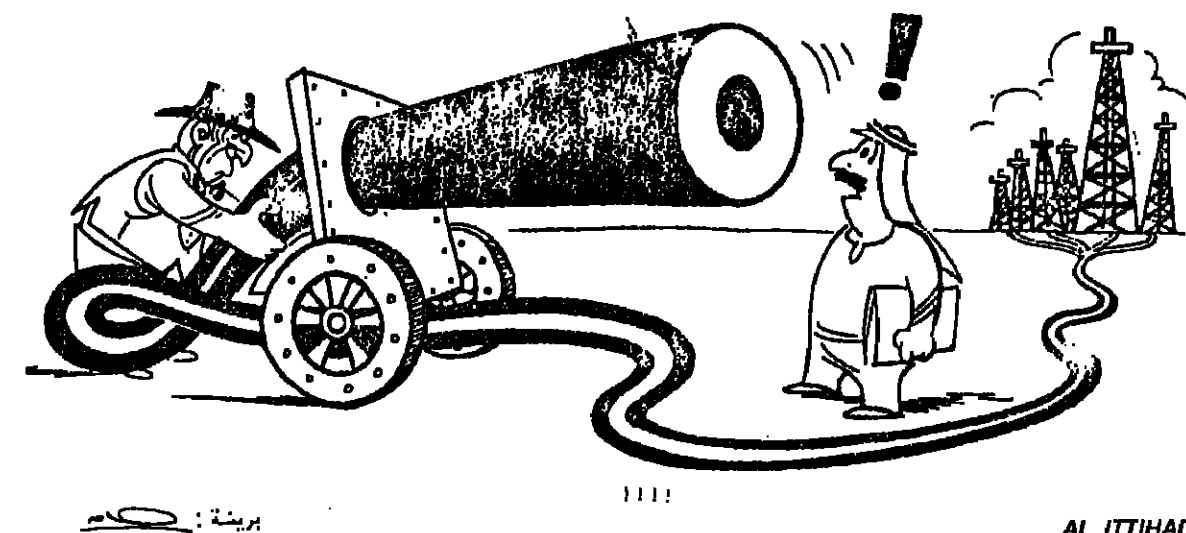
"Even Zaire, which has strong ties with Israel and is known to obey Washington's orders, could not take that disgraceful position and abstained from voting, while other Western powers known for their historical alignment with Israel have found that the Israeli crimes constitute a challenge to all human norms and voted accordingly," the paper remarks.

Al-Wihda newspaper remarks that despite Arab efforts in favour of a peace settlement worked out by the United States, Washington has found it appropriate to veto a resolution demanding halt to the building of Israeli settlements.

"We are confident that it does not make much difference whether the resolution is approved or disapproved, as many similar Security Council resolutions have remained ineffective. Yet the US veto offers evidence to those who still need it of the depth of the US-Israeli alliance," writes Al-Wihda.

The Qatari English-language Gulf Times says the American veto has isolated the United States, even from its West European allies.

"America will not respond to any calls for a shift in its Middle East policy, and only the Arabs can bring about such a change once they embark on effective action based on a common strategy," the paper asserts.



Middle East Editorial Opinion

It urges a revival of the Arab Peace initiative because this could rally Arab ranks and end the current disputes.

Another Qatari newspaper, Al-Arab, voices surprise at the fact some Arab quarters still wage on the US policy in spite of what happened in the Security Council.

It says US policy is hopeless because it gives support, not only to Zionist terrorism, but also to oppressive regimes in Central America and other parts of the world.

In Israel, Davar newspaper says that Israeli policy towards the future of the occupied territories, together with the question of settlement, should be drawn up according to Israeli interests. "In our opinion, it is not in the interest of Israel to annex the occupied territories or to intensify official or public settlement in areas populated by Arabs."

The Reagan administration's policy towards settlement does not conflict with that of former presidents Davaar writes. The State Department statement that the dismantling of West Bank settlements is not practical, represents a new expression of an old policy. "Therefore, there is no cause for rejoicing due to a change in the US policy towards settlement, because the American spokesman re-emphasized the negative effect of those settlements on a peaceful settlement."

On the same topic, Haaretz says the American statement on settlement in the occupied territories has created satisfaction among settlers like Rabbi Levinger and Gush Emunim movement, who will look at the American statement as the victory they have achieved during the past fifteen years of struggle against the Labour governments.

But, "settlers must not ignore that part of the American statement which refers to the harmful impact of settlement on the peace endeavours which aim at reaching a reasonable solution of the conflict in the region. Those who reject settlement in the occupied territories do not do so due to difficulties facing Israel in the free world, mainly in the USA, without whose political and financial support it would have been impossible for Israel to survive during the past 10 years."

On the current mission of US envoy Robert McFarlane, Al-Fajr newspaper of Sharja emirate writes that the outcome of the mission will depend on Mr. McFarlane's talks in Damascus.

"It is difficult to foretell the outcome of the US envoy's mission in Damascus. So far, nobody knows why Syria had refused to receive Philip Habib and why the same position has not been applicable to McFarlane," writes Al-Fajr.

It predicts that Mr. McFarlane's mission could lead to one of three results: success in dragging Damascus into the negotiations over troop withdrawal from Lebanon, on the basis of new American ideas; failure to make Damascus budge, leading to new military options, or failure causing the postponement of a Lebanese solution until the US presidential election is over.

In an editorial under the headline "Mission Impossible," Israel's Al-Hamishmar writes: "In Washington, they may think that replacing Habib by McFarlane will lead to better results. But from the first leg of his tour we can tell that nothing has changed."

McFarlane brought "unpleasant news" from Beirut to Israel, the paper says: The news that Lebanon is not ratifying the agreement with Israel because the time is not yet ripe. President Gemayel has refrained from signing the agreement because he does not want to annoy Syria, which is trying to destroy the agreement's meagre achievements.

It has been evident that the American and Israeli diplomacies have failed in the early stages of settling the Lebanese crisis because they ignored Syria, Al-Hamishmar writes. It would have been better to involve Syria in the negotiations instead of trying to impose settlements on it, it says.

Yediot Aharonot notes the Israeli foreign minister's statement that the redeployment falls within the implementation of the agreement which has not been yet ratified by Lebanon, thus implying that this is a start of the total withdrawal from Lebanon.

"There have been encouraging remarks about the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon provided a different schedule was set up, in addition to granting Syria security arrangements similar to those granted to Israel in Lebanese territory," the Israeli paper says.

"If this is true, it implies that Israel has manifested flexibility regarding the timetable of withdrawal, thus provided a breakthrough for getting out of the Lebanese dilemma. We hope that there is solid ground for the new optimism, and that those who said Syria seems ready for a settlement know what they are talking about."

Also in Israel, Maariv remarks that upon their return from Washington, the ministers of foreign affairs and defence stated that the situation in Lebanon is improving everyday. "If this is true why does Begin talk about the tragedy of the war in Lebanon?"

The US did not put pressure on the Israeli ministers during their visit to Washington because the Americans

cannot see a way out of the dilemma, Maariv writes. There were questions in Washington about whether Israel will lay down a total withdrawal schedule after redeployment.

With the arrival of envoy McFarlane in the region, the Americans will attempt to disturb the Israeli claim for spontaneous withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, it says. The Israeli government does not dare to pull out of Lebanon at this stage without stipulating a similar Syrian withdrawal. "The Lebanon war is being transformed into another Vietnam for the Likud government," Maariv says.

The Cairo newspaper Al-Gomhouriya warns that Israel may soon take certain steps to annex the West Bank and Gaza. It refers to recent statements made in this connection by the Israeli defence minister and former Israeli Ambassador to Cairo Eliahu Ben Alisar.

"Such statements should not be underestimated or be regarded as merely part of a political bargaining. Ben Alisar is a prominent political figure whose positions reflect on the decision-making process in Israel," remarks the Egyptian daily.

It goes on to say that Mr. Ben Alisar's call for annexation of the West Bank and Gaza is a basic element in overall Israeli policies.

PLO consensus

On PLO affairs, Ad-Dustour in Amman notes that following three days of debate in Tunis, the Palestine Central Council (PCC) reached a consensus in support of Chairman Yasser Arafat. It says this step has major significance, as the PLO leadership has been disputed by the Fatah dissidents and viewed with hostility by Damascus.

"The PCC resolutions could be among the most important so far taken by a high-level PLO meeting held under extremely difficult circumstances," asserts the Jordanian daily.

It further notes that all the factions attending the Tunis meeting were keen on maintaining the unity of Palestinian ranks and ending combat among PLO fighters.

Ad-Dustour concludes by urging the PLO to stick to democratic dialogue, such as that which took place in Tunis, because such dialogue enables the Palestinians to overcome their differences and bolster their struggle against the common enemy.

On recent developments on the Gulf war front, Al-Ra'i newspaper remarks that Iraqi forces are besieging a number of Iranian towns, not because they seek to occupy new Iranian territory, but to prove that they still hold the initiative and can transfer the fighting into Iranian soil.

Kamel
Abu
Jaber



The American veto

Part I

Greetings to Jerusalem!

INTERNATIONAL LAW, legal precedent and custom state that an occupying power has no legal right to change the status of the occupied territories under its control. A number of United Nations resolutions before and since 1967 have condemned Israeli activities and inhuman treatment of the population under occupation. The Geneva Conventions, resting on international law developed since the sixteenth century and earlier, were the legal and moral bases for the exhortations of the League of Nations and then the United Nations regarding the treatment of occupied territories and peoples. Since 1945, the activities of Nazi Germany and German war criminals brought to justice before the Nuremberg Tribunal, have rested on these principles.

Israel, indeed the United States and the whole western world are aware of these facts. Israel's "rationale" or "irrationality" as well as behaviour, stems from reasons endemic to the body politic of that state, its leadership and their desire for expansion "justified" by their paranoid behaviour thinly camouflaged in their repeated declamations of their need for "security".

But why did the United States see fit to cast its 36th veto since the creation of the United Nations, on behalf of Israel? Is there any special significance to this veto and where does such a significant veto lie? Finally, what were the contents of the Arab resolution found so abhorrent as to merit a veto by the United States?

Few Arabs would have paid attention to the passage of the Arab resolutions had it passed and it would have been counted as merely another toothless and spineless declamation added to a long list of others, disregarded and discarded by Israel and its supporters. Its significance lies not so much in its content as in its rejection by the super power. The resolution calling — again — for a condemnation of Israeli arbitrary activities in the occupied territories, calls for dismantling of settlements established on Arab lands since 1967 and condemns the inhuman attack on the students of al-Khalil Islamic University which resulted in the murder of three, and the wounding of forty, Palestinian students.

Had it passed, it would have received hardly more than a cursory nod from the vast majority of the Arabs; for we too have learned, like the Israelis, though for different reasons, to disregard such resolutions. The Arab man in the street, if there is such a creature, has learned to file them away as yet another symptom of the seemingly terrible helplessness and inadequacy of the Arab nation. Most Arabs would have thought, "what is another wound to our body, or another source of bleeding. Is this new indignity committed to our person more meaningful than the previous ones?" But that is a digression.

Mr. Charles Lichenstein is the deputy ambassador of the United States to the United Nations. In explaining his delegation's veto, he reached new American heights in political literary confusion and ambiguity that somehow left no doubt as to the real outcome. For after all the double meaning, multi syllabled explanations settle down, the fog finally lifts, and the end result is the American legitimization of not only the illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, but also, a legitimization albeit vague at present, certainly a first step towards final legitimization or at least acquiescence, to Israeli occupation of the occupied territories in toto. Ambassador Lichenstein's explanations merit very deep thought and close scrutiny.

To fully appreciate the significance of the veto one will have to place it against the background of American-Israeli strategic co-operation. In spite of whether an agreement was or was not signed between the two, as well as against the 1984 presidential election campaign already under way in the United States.

Viewed from this angle, this very important veto takes on added significance for it will certainly enhance the present administration's standing with the all-powerful Zionist lobby in the United States. Also, this veto is yet another victory for Mr. Begin and his Likud coalition and will certainly enhance their chances of victory in the coming Israeli elections.



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15 AUGUST 1983

Arab stand towards the West

IN THE Arab children's literature there is a story about an elephant and an Indian tailor. The elephant was in the habit of passing every day by the Indian tailor's shop, where reaching out its long trunk, the seemingly docile and clumsy beast got its reward of food from the tailor. One day, however, it occurred to the tailor to play a trick on the elephant.

So when the elephant stretched out its trunk to have its reward, the man pierced the poor animal's trunk with his big sewing needle. To his satisfaction, the tailor watched the elephant turn away as patiently and in the same seemingly docile manner as it behaved every day. But soon enough the beast came back, stood at the shop again, and drenched the wicked tailor with the dirty water it had carried in its trunk all the way back from a nearby river. The elephant had its revenge.

Yet the purport of this simple anecdote is lost on the elephant — like bulk of the Arab world. It seems that in spite of the numerous rebuffs it has received from the "friendly" West, it still reacts coyly and infamously to its unwilling mistress. One can even say that the more it is rebuffed, the harder it clings to its mother's apron strings.

The good mother has mastered the trick of the profitable game perfectly well, and is, accordingly, growing more and more audacious in her coquetry with her anxious child. And alas, the elephant-huge Arab world has lost even the semblance of the elephant-like mood to hit back.

For, was it the first time, a week or ten days ago, that the United States, represented by its delegation to the UN Security Council, voted the council's almost unanimous resolution of denouncing Israel's cold-blood attack

against the unarmed students of the Hebrew Islamic University. No, it certainly was not the first time, and it won't be the last time the United States would act in this way.

But how did the Arab side react to the veto? Simply, complete silence and

By Henry Matar

another shock of pretentious bewilderment.

But is it the fault of the West that matters have reached this blind alley or even the weakest expression of protest against what is happening in Palestine, and against its serious implications within the Arab world? Has this world not had hundreds and hundreds of proofs that to approach the West logically and even with good intentions of peace making is of no avail?

Doesn't the Sadat move towards the Camp David's accord provide enough evidence that Israel is the strategic ally of the West? Instead of reaping the gains of the peaceful approach of Egypt, the Arab world has had to suffer seeing Lebanon torn as under and of standing the danger of being torn away from the body of the Arab world. Thus the endeavour of Arab information circles to approach the West rationally and to make it understand its misconception of the Zionist movement has amounted to nothing. It has only increased the West's hard hand towards the Arabs.

One would like to ask, why does the official West stick so tenaciously its support of Israel? Simply because Zionism, the ideological framework pattern of Israel, is an outgrowth of the West. It has been reared by capitalist Europe and America just as the middle

class colonialism and fascism. Zionism, therefore, has deep-seated, woven interests to continue with its Western parenthood.

For one, Zionism has rendered good services to the colonialism by its financial contributions to the establishment of capitalism and colonialism. Another way Zionism has been the West, has been and still is, attracting the down-trodden Jews to its real struggle for freedom — creatively with his co-equals from the trodden strata of European and American societies to an inveterate colonialist settlement in Palestine, the analogy of Western colonialism in Africa and Asia.

As a matter of fact, Israel is but upon by the West as a co-partner in exploitation of the Arab East. Thirdly, Zionism did help, as historic documents show, fascist regimes, Nazism, to get rid of a good number of troublesome Jews and have them aggression and turn fascists themselves in the land of their metaphysical dreams, Palestine, even to the exterminating the poor Palestinians everywhere.

Is it then strange that USA, under sign, and for the first time straight forwardly and unequivocally, legal backing up of Israeli settlement in the West Bank when it voted Security Council's verdict as to the illegitimacy of those settlements.

To stop the down career of the situation, and to forestall their being least politically exterminated, the Arabs have to take a different course. But they have to be briefed before in the organic affinity between Zionism and colonialism and its Western allied counterpart, and to correct the conclusion that to rationally approach the West is futile.

Hollywood watching in the Arab world

WATCHING EVENTS on the Arab scene is becoming like viewing movie classics for the 20th time or more. After a while even the most bloody events in the region seem to attract no interest at all on the side of the ordinary citizen. In fact many events in our area have been going on for so long that they managed to fit the theme of some great movie epics.

Of course after a while even the greatest movie loses its touch and appeal and the viewer has to look for other sources of entertainment.

I don't wish to belittle the importance of such events and critical development in the region, but in the face of Arab disregard to these challenges one has to speak his mind.

For instance I am sure that many other observers of the developments on the Arab scene have already formed their own cynical perception of this area's problems. Mine is built on the movie example where events in the Middle East are developing more like great movie epics. This is how I see it.

— The Iraqi-Iran war, which is about to enter its fourth year, reminds me of "Rocky" 1, 2 and 3.

— The war in Lebanon involving Israel, Syria, the Phalange, Muslims, Christians, Druze, Palestinians among others reminds me of the Oscar winner "Star Wars".

— The two Yemens trying to unite for the fourth time reminds me of "Kramer vs Kramer".

— Israel and Egypt giving another try for the normalisation process is very much like "Guess who's coming to dinner?".

— The oil slick which is still expanding and threatening to engulf the Gulf states (another Hollywood stunt) reminds me of a 1960 movie called "The Blob" in which a blood blob expands to an enormous size and in the process devours hundreds of people.

— Polisario's attempts to create a state in the Western Sahara is very much like "Tootsie".

— Libya's involvement in Chad under the cover of aiding "the legitimate leader" reminds me of James Bond's movie "Live and let die".

You can go on and on. It is not funny at all to make these comparisons but since the Arab masses are not consulted on what goes on and are expected to act like by-standers, we might as well fantasize and amuse ourselves.

Of course we should not amuse ourselves too much for we also have our role in these movies. You see we do fit on the stage since we are the extras who although they go on unnoticed on the screen, have an essential role to play in making a successful movie. Any director will tell you that!

Video screen brings mixed blessings

By Najwa Kefay
Special to the Star

THE CARELESS use of video in Jordan threatens the community with serious social problems according to psychiatrist Dr. Awni Saud and sociologist Dr. Sari Nasir.

Video was introduced to Jordan in 1966 and served solely an educational role for schools, universities and the armed forces. But in 1978 it became available as an entertainment medium for the general public.

It is now estimated (using statistics from the Department of Statistics of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Finance and Customs, the Department of Press and Publications of the Ministry of Information and the Amman Municipality Building and Licensing Department) that ten per cent of television owners now have video sets and this opens many possibilities, both good and bad.

On the surface Jordan has become quite a westernized society but important elements of the past remain very much alive. Islamic values, Bedouin traditions and the family structure are all major forces in peoples lives. When these come into conflict with the values portrayed on the video screen the potential for damage is enormous.

One serious problem is the availability of pornographic films. Although all video and cinema films which enter the country legally are subject to strict censorship, it is difficult to control the smuggling of pornographic films. Then all it takes is two video sets, a film and blank tapes and hundreds of copies of a pornographic film are easily available.

According to Dr. Saad sudden exposure to such films in a conservative society could definitely create psychiatric problems, especially amongst adolescents.

He spoke of one incident that has already occurred. A sixteen year old girl innocently invited her friends to watch a video movie, it turned out to be pornographic. Apparently her brother had not bothered to hide it in a safe place and she saw it, and showed it to her friends by mistake.

She was so distressed she had a nervous breakdown and had to be hospitalized.

Means of escape

Dr. Nasir believes that people can easily begin to use such facilities as video as a means of escape from their everyday pressures. Social interaction here is at a minimum and people start trying to emulate characters and incidents they see on film. They are introduced to alien values which cannot be successfully adapted to society here. Younger people especially begin to identify with the alien culture and reject their own and this brings many social problems.

Video can thus become a kind of drug which drives people from reality. Dr. Nasir emphasizes the fact that it is not the video itself that causes problems but its misuse. Many mothers are using video as a "child minder" so that they can dedicate their time to other activities. If this continues, says Dr. Nasir, Jordan is faced with a new generation brought up and guided by video films.

Dr. Nasir believes that there should be a strenuous campaign to make people in general, and mothers in particular, aware of the potential negative effects of video. The campaign should be carried out on a large scale among academics and the media. It should also cover the medical field with emphasis on the dangers of radiation from excessive exposure to the screen and the problems of poor physical development amongst children who spend too much time inside watching films.

Better side

Of course video has had its positive effects on society. In the field of education and especially in teacher training and in language teaching it has been very valuable.

Furthermore, in an attempt to develop and promote the use of video in the field of education certain Arab educational organizations, notably the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Social Organization (ALECSO), are holding seminars, conferences and training courses.

Also, since it entered Jordan, video has served as a spur to the television companies to improve

their programmes. Though, according to Marwan Khair, Managing Director of Jordan Television, his organization will never really be able to compete with video as the range of losses in programmes within the Jordanian population is so great.

Economic impact

In the economic sphere, the introduction of video has also been a very mixed event.

According to the agents of electrical appliances, each sold approximately 500 sets in the whole year of 1980 at a price of JD 600-700. Now they sell on average JD 150-200 a month at about one half to two thirds the 1980 price.

On the other hand, the market for tapes is frozen now because it is already saturated with the old films. This is largely the result of the monopoly existing in the film distribution sector which in turn controls the tape market.

The owners of the major cinemas in Jordan are also the distributors of video film tapes. They exhausted all their stored movies in the first couple of months of the "video revolution", taping out the rate of 3 films daily, and making 200 copies of each film. These were then distributed to the video shops in town and they in turn make their own copies from this original.

Now that they have used all their film stocks their video film production relies only on the 6 or 7 films which cinema owners show every month. After showing in the cinemas, the films are recorded on VHS and Betamax video tapes.

Only the cinema owners have telecinema machine which transfers the 35 mm film to a cromatic tape, and thence on to ordinary video tapes. As the capacity of their cinemas is limited this dictates the available number of new video films in the market, and such a small number of films does not generate many tapes.

For this and other reasons, such as the film renting policy (many people never return tapes or return them late without bothering to pay any extra fee) many are closing down. Out of 400 licensed video shops only 200 exist now in the Kingdom, 150 are in Amman, and the remaining 50 are in the other parts of the country.

The good news

THERE IS no valid scientific evidence that video display terminals used by millions of office workers permanently damage vision, a panel of experts assembled by the US National Research Council have reported in Washington.

Nor do they increase the risk of cataracts, according to the panel. Although 40 to 80% of the terminal operators questioned in various surveys have complained of eye strain or other visual problems, the panel concluded, there is little evidence that their symptoms differ appreciably from those of workers engaged in other close visual tasks and no evidence that the effects are lasting.

Panel members said they considered the problems associated with video display terminals a matter of "annoyance to workers" and a threat to productivity rather than a public health issue.

And another report has exonerated computer video monitors from the charge of emitting dangerous levels of radiation.

A study by the British government has found that video screens in the United Kingdom emit radiation far below recommended levels.

and the bad

SPENDING LONG periods in front of a video display screen may produce a visual optical illusion that can linger for more than a day, three northwestern university researchers report in yesterday's New England Journal of Medicine.

The team noticed that after spending many hours staring at the green characters on the screen of their IBM computer, white chalk lines on a blackboard began to look pink and sheets of white paper seemed to have fuzzy pink edges.

The illusion is harmless and fades over time, the doctors said, but they wanted to alert physicians.

"Physicians should be aware of the phenomenon so as not to mistake it for a hysterical symptom or a manifestation of neurologic disease," they said.

War against pirates becomes tougher

By Jeremy Deedes

TWO MEN dressed as security guards called at a cinema in the North-West of England earlier this year and asked for the reels of the feature film which had been showing during the previous week.

Nothing untoward about that: the cinema manager had been expecting them, the men signed for the cans of film and left.

It was only when two more security men called on a similar mission a few hours later that it became clear, in movie parlance, that there had been a well-sussed heist.

At first sight, the planning seemed at odds with the value of the goods stolen. But the perpetrators of the crime were a syndicate of video pirates, not so much interested in having a private view of the film, but in the numbers of lucrative video copies which they could make from the "master."

The story gives a small insight into the lengths to which those seriously involved in the dark side of video are prepared to go — and why recently George Lucas was moved to offer a reward of \$50,000 for information leading to the recovery of a stolen copy of his very successful movie, the Return of the Jedi.

Given the size of his investment in the film and the potential earnings the thieves may deprive him of, he might have been wiser to have offered \$50,000.

It has added publicity to the whole Jedi episode, from the theft of the original reels in Hastings, to the arrival on the black market of the first illicit video cassettes.

Sophisticated criminals

In spite of the elaborate security precautions (the film had actually crossed the Atlantic on the airplane seat adjacent to its minder) the pirates had won. Proving to those still in doubt that video piracy is not just a game being played by a latter-day Raffles for the enhanced entertainment of

millions, at only mild inconvenience to the film companies.

It involves sophisticated criminals, many of whom served their apprenticeships in the porn trade, who are depriving the legitimate video industry of up to £120 million a year. They are not fussy about the means employed to achieve their illegal ends.

It is generally believed that the original illicit copies of ET, the first major victim of video theft, arrived in England via Holland. The fee to the "runner" who smuggled in the master tape for a major London video was £10,000.

Evil thoughts begot more evil thoughts and the runner was foolish enough to make a second copy which he sold to a rival counterfeiter in Leeds.

The runner was subsequently found in a condition more usually associated with the streets of Chicago. He was alive yet still observed a silence about his assailants.

Both ET and the Return of the Jedi arrived on the video market long before the video rights had even been sold and this represents the most lucrative area for pirates: providing a product before it has arrived in the shops.

The second part of the racket may be less remunerative, but is more widespread and involves the precise copying of existing videos, right down to the labels and packaging. These are then passed off as the genuine article.

The fantastic sales of video recorders in Britain, outstripping every other country in the world, created four million private cinemas, and with it a demand for film material which was to prove irresistible to every villain in the land.

In the early days, the quality of illicit tapes was poor, but the consumer could hardly complain to the Office of Fair Trading, and the majority remained technically in ignorance of the damage the cheap copies were doing to their expensive and prized video recorders.

As the vast profits accumulated, however, and the pirates appeared able to carry on their business relatively undisturbed by too much law enforcement,

so they were able to invest in more sophisticated equipment, techniques and means to obtain the illicit originals from which to forge their wares.

Widescreen movie

In order to transcribe a stolen or "borrowed" master film on 35mm, a pirate ideally requires access to a complex and costly piece of video equipment to transfer the film from negative to video tape. The most generally used of these is the Rank-Cinell machine, costing in its most basic form £150,000-£200,000.

The large video distributors and television companies have a number of costly additions. Through a computer these perform such tricks as reducing a widescreen movie (like the Jedi) to television screen proportions without picture distortion and altering picture contrast to suit TV. Although there have been some prosecutions already for breach of copyright, major crime busts in the video world have been markedly fewer than the instances of piratical success.

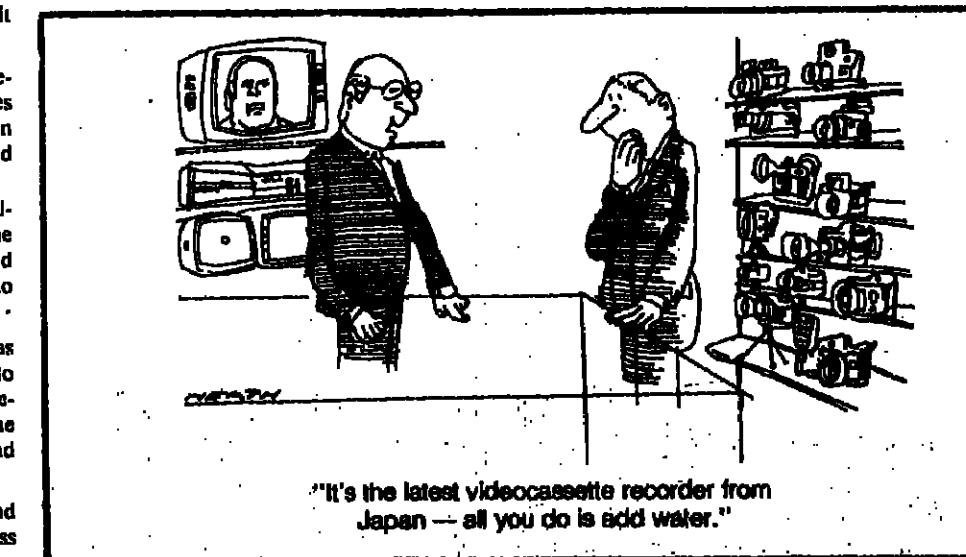
This has been for two major reasons: the copyright law had never been framed to deal with the phenomenon of video when it was passed in 1956. And initially the industry had neither the funds nor the manpower to fight back against its black market rivals. Much has now changed.

In January the video trade established the Federation against Copyright Theft (FACT) headed by ex-Scotland Yard Commander Peter Duffy and Robert Birch, also an ex-Yard man with 40 years experience as a solicitor.

They will not reveal the full size of their staff in the field, but they are now equipped with computer technology and are funded by every major video distributor.

Another major enforcement agency is the Motion Picture Export Association of America. They have recently been joined by ex-Yard detective Percy Brown who is their chief investigations officer.

London Express Service.



THE JERUSALEM STAR 21

health

Modern day 'Pied Pipers' tackle the pest problem

By Hamdan Al-Haj
Special to the Star

THE GROWTH of every city brings with it a variety of health dangers and one of the most common is the spread of rodents, cockroaches and other insect pests.

Since 1980 the Amman Municipality has had a special unit of Insects and Rodents Department to deal with this problem. This week Dr Adnan Abdul-Majid, director of the department spoke to The Star about its work.

He said the most troublesome pests at present are rodents and cockroaches whose numbers are increasing continuously. They tend to gather in water pipes and sewers and are especially common in the central market area of Amman.

Campaign

Of course, in these modern times, the municipality does not hire a piper to solve its pest problems. In fact action begins with spraying campaigns. These take place in the hot weather only as the insecticides are ineffective during the rainy seasons.

For the purposes of the campaigns Amman is divided into three zones. Each zone has a six man team consisting of a driver, two workers to open manholes, two sprayers and an inspector. They are equipped with a tractor and two 120 metre long hoses and all team members are trained in the measurement of insecticides and methods of spraying.

Dr. Abdul-Majid emphasized that the work of the department in training manpower for pest control extends throughout Jordan. He said his department had started training employees from the different governorates in the correct measurement of insecticides and rodenticides. There are now seven trainees at the department and there are plans to hold weekly training sessions to provide sufficient technicians for the whole country.

Follow-up

Asked about the follow-up to the spraying campaigns, Dr. Abdul-Majid said rodent control



Dr. Adnan Abdul-Majid

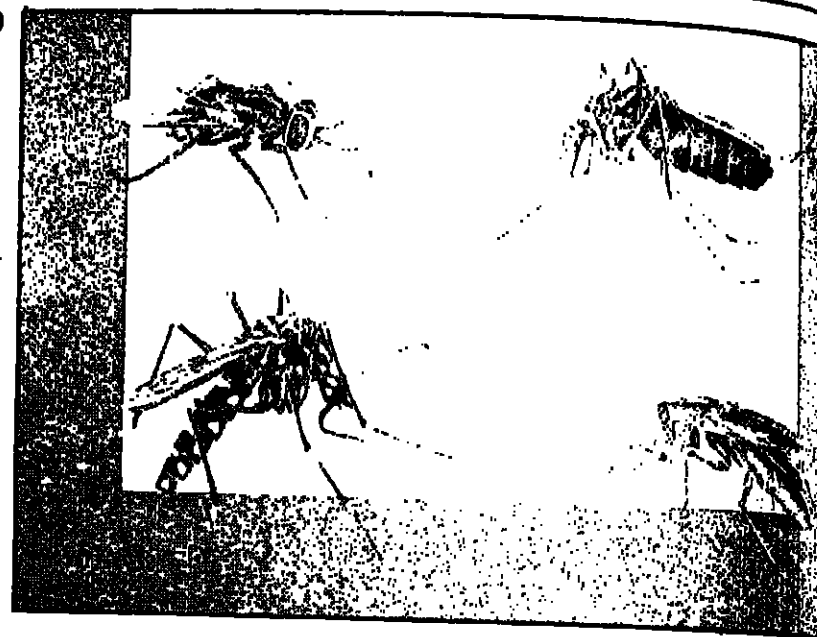
In Amman and the adjacent areas had been 95 per cent successful and the control teams are constantly on the look-out for the remaining pests.

Certain areas continue to be sprayed daily. These include the slaughterhouses and their adjacent animal enclosures.

When a report of pests is received from a member of the general public the team which sprayed the area originally returns to tackle the complaint. They can work more effectively as they are already familiar with the layout of the area.

Dr. Abdul-Majid pointed out that his department always uses insecticides that are recommended by the World Health Organization and are not toxic to human beings.

The Combat of Insects and Rodents Department now has plans to extend its work to the Ghor area, especially to tackle the problem of cockroaches which are damaging the crops.



Whatever the variety, the cockroach, along with the housefly, is a hazard to health

An insect of little charm

By Ziad Alawneh
Special to the Star

COCKROACHES ARE one of the most common household pests and it is unlikely that many people are very fond of them. The repulsive appearance, bad odour and filthy habits of these ancient insects — fossil remains indicate that they were abundant more than 200 million years ago — makes them extremely objectionable.

But it is also unlikely that many people realize just how unhealthy these creatures can be.

The simplest method of disease transmission by cockroaches is indirect mechanical transmission in which they function as passive carriers of diseases by picking them up from the bodies or in the excretions of humans or animals and depositing them on food.

Cockroaches habitually disgorge portions of their partly digested food and drop them faeces wherever they go. Enteric pathogens obtained from human wastes pass through the cockroaches and remain viable in the faeces and can then be transferred to human food.

In 1957 a scientist reported an instance in which cockroaches were directly responsible for an outbreak of gastroenteritis. All cases had been inoculated by milk from one dairy. The bottle caps became contaminated in storage because they were overrun by infected cockroaches.

When the caps were stored in containers free of cockroaches, the outbreak ceased.

Barth demonstrated in 1914 that cockroaches are many other methods of disease transmission such as tuberculosis, typhoid, and dysentery. The ecological agents of the survive passage through their intestine, carried on their bodies.

Investigation in Peru demonstrated that per cent of the house infecting cockroaches carried viable cysts of *Entamoeba*. All four common roaches serve as mechanical hosts of round worms. In 1935 Japanese cockroaches to overrun bodies of men of plague in Manchuria. They were found on the infected secretions. These organisms were later discovered in the excreta and highly virulent condition.

In 1948 a test is conducted showing cockroaches harbor the food-poisoning salmonella organism. These studies indicated that cockroaches deposit their excreta on food or on salmonella organisms will remain active.

Populations of roaches of one or more species have increased in urban situations because common systems of sewage disposal provide all their basic needs. The food waste and channels provide routes for dispersal as easy access to dwellings. The chance of contamination of cockroaches with enteric pathogens is very great because of this frequent contact with human wastes.

New probe into leukaemia

By John F Webb

THE LARGEST-EVER epidemiological study of cancers of the blood and lymph system, to be carried out in Britain over the next three years, will be aimed at unravelling the complex chain of events that are believed to trigger these diseases.

The work, lifestyle, medical history and environmental backgrounds of more than 1000 leukaemia and lymphoma victims will be investigated by a team of researchers from Leeds University in northern England. Literally every new case occurring in the Yorkshire region of northern England will be studied.

All doctors and hospitals in the area, which has a population of 3.5 million, have agreed to co-operate in the £150,000 project to ensure that the probe is the most complete ever undertaken.

Blood and tissue samples will be tested at specially-equipped laboratories in Leeds to identify which of the many sub-types of the diseases is involved and all patients will be questioned in order to build up the fullest possible picture of their life, and exposure to potential risk factors.

The research will take into account the complete occupational and residential history of the patient, his or her smoking and

drinking habits, leisure time activities, as well as the extent of exposure to chemicals and drugs. The medical history of both patient and close relatives will be studied and the researchers will compare each patient with two others people having a similar background.

Statistics suggest that the incidence of these cancers in Britain, and possibly other parts of the world, has doubled in the last 20 years. But it is thought that up to 80 per cent of all cancers will be preventable once known about their cause.

Possible links

Cancer studies indicate there are possible links between the disease and certain chemicals and solvents used in industry, that drugs, other diseases and genetic factors may also play an important part.

Dr Ray Cartwright, leader of the study, says: "One of the reasons that the causes of cancers are so difficult to study is that they are probably triggered by a complex chain of events, an interaction between different factors which it is difficult to unravel."

And recent work in the United States has shown that a rare type of the disease known as T-cell leukaemia-lymphoma could be caused by a virus. We hope that the breadth of this study and the depth of computer analysis now available will provide new clues about the other types.



All Things Considered

Joyce Abu Jassar

Life in the water

PEOPLE DIDN'T much go in for pets in the past but now shops specialising in birds of all feathers and fishes of assorted varieties are opening all over town.

Birds are nice but noisy. And they do scatter seeds and feathers out of their cage to float through the house. Fish are quiet. They stay in their aquarium and mind their own business. In fact, if you have a community aquarium, one with several species together, it is more engaging to watch than the serials on television. There are real-life dramas going on in that small body of water — and in full colour, too, without adjustments. This is the way that one such story went:

There were two young Egyptian mouthbreeder fish living in a tank. They grew up together and matured. The female retained her silver-grey colour speckled with light blue spots. The male grew darker, his spots became an iridescent sky-blue. They fell in love and got married.

Soon the new husband was busy himself scooping out the sand on the bottom of the aquarium to make a nest for the eggs. In time they were laid, fertilised and the expectant mother gathered them up in her mouth where she would keep them for two weeks, without eating anything herself during all this time, until they hatched. Then she would protect the hatchlings until they grew to a size where they no longer fit in this protective place.

It is the practice with those who keep fish to remove expectant females to a separate tank while they gestate their young so that they will not be disturbed by other members and species of the community. That's what I did. Then trouble started.

Mr. E. Mouthbreeder became sullen, depressed and lethargic. He refused to eat. He moped in the corner and grew thin as the days were counted off. Suspense mounted. Would he live until his wife hatched the eggs and raised her young, keeping them in her mouth until they were able to swim off on their own, or were too big to fit in her mouth any longer?

He pined, grew weaker. Then one dismal day I found him belly-up, floating on the surface. Mother and babies were fine but now she was a widow with young children. The kids grew up rather quickly as is the way with fish and she was alone, but still young. I thought she needed to remarry.

I searched pet shops, questioned fellow fish fanciers until I located another male for her, brought him home and installed him in the tank. The two of them eyed each other cautiously for the better part of a week then the action began. She pursued him into a corner of the aquarium and nipped at his fins, biting little pieces out of them.

Somewhat things weren't working out between them. Maybe he was too young for her, or they had come from different rivers, spoke different languages, or had other incompatibilities. But clearly it was loathing, not love that motivated her in her attentions to her proposed mate.

He cringed behind the aquatic greenery and steadily grew thinner and emaciated. His fins were tattered stumps that barely kept him upright in the water. Then one day I found him belly-up on the tank's surface, mercifully so.

Mrs. Mouthbreeder was a good neighbour to others in her fishy community for the remainder of her long life but she never remarried. I guess she just preferred the single life.



Left: grey crushed silk bolero suit with matching silk blouse by Katherine Hamnett



Right: indigo tie-dye crushed cotton top with skirt on sashed blouse by Yoshiko

Throw away that iron!

By Liz Smith

WASH, DRY, SHAKE. What could be easier than this summer's whim for pure silk that looks puckered, crumpled and, quite frankly, unkempt? Think of your pile of ironing fresh from the washing machine, and you've got the picture.

Encouraged by the success last summer of her crumpled cottons, designer Katherine Hamnett has extended her easy-care techniques to silk.

Method, not madness, drives her to spin in a washing machine set hot enough to shrink seams and pucker the cloth, her pure silk intricately-detailed blouses, complete with padded

shoulders, as well as handkerchiefs, point silk skirts and dresses.

Her labour-saving ideas don't cut the cost of the clothes, however. The price of dishevelment is high.

For some time drip-dry buttoned-down customers have steered clear of fashionable linens with labels neatly sewn inside guaranteeing wrinkles. After years dourly resisting such bohemian fads and hours spent at the ironing board smoothing out concertinaed sleeves and trouser legs, the handbox-fresh brigade have welcomed the purpose-pressed linens and linen mixtures with tree-bark textures that are in fashion now.

Even those who disapprove of the

unstructured cut of Japanese clothes, must admire the new techniques in textiles pioneered by their designers. They have shown us the elegance of cloth cross-hatched with tiny creases or precisely machine-wrinkled.

Among the prettiest — and priciest — new textures is the finely pleated and indigo-dyed cottons turned into tube dresses, or tops and skirts, by Japanese designer, Yoshiko. Nothing random about his methods of wrinkling and dyeing, as you will see from the tiny pinholes in the cloth where the threads stitched to hold the zig-zag pleating have been released, in a development of Japanese hand-tied resist, or *tegukuri-kasuri*.

London Express Service

Itching eyes

Often my eyes itch and are red. The insides of my eyelids also are red and itchy severely. Could this be an allergy? What can I do to stop it?

The first step in solving this problem is to note just when and where these symptoms occur. Do they happen when you are home, at work or travelling? Are they more intense indoors or out? Do your eyes itch when you are around animals? Do you have more trouble during certain seasons of the year — more itching in summer than winter, or during certain months? Do you handle substances during the day and then possibly touch your eyes or rub them, transferring that material to them?

How long have you been living at your present home, or how long have

you had your present job and did your eyes bother you before then? Are you using any sort of medications or cosmetics, scents like perfume or after-shave, creams or lotions around your face? Do you know if you have any allergies?

Itching can be relieved by applying an ice compress. Crush one or two ice cubes and then wrap them in a clean white lint-free cloth and hold them over your eyes. This will give you temporary benefit only so you should note all the answers to the above questions and take these to your doctor.

He will probably want to do eye tests to eliminate any sight defects as the cause of your problem. After that he may do a number of sensitivity tests to determine if you are indeed suffer-

Health by Joyce Niles

ing from an allergy, and if so, to what substances.

Then you can decide how to avoid these irritating agents in the future to reduce episodes of eye inflammation.

The doctor may also prescribe drops to put in your eyes, or tablets like antihistamine to calm your body's reaction to the allergens, or offending materials.

Joyce Niles is a member of the American Medical Writers Association

NASR & IMAD

Amman's wizards of hairstyling wish to announce that they continue to be the most inventive hairstylists, with a special haircut for every face and a unique style for every occasion.

HAIR & BEAUTY SALON

5th circle Jabal Amman

Chicken, sausage and noodle casserole

Ingredients

- 1/2 kilo noodles
- 1/2 kilo sausages
- 1/2 kilo mushrooms
- 2 large onions
- one tablespoon oil
- salt and pepper to taste
- 8-12 chicken joints
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 litre chicken stock
- 1/2 kilo cream
- 100 grammes grated cheese

Method

- Boil the chicken joints until just cooked
- Cool, skin and bone them, leaving the meat in fairly large pieces
- Sauté the sausages in oil, drain
- In the fat sauté the onions and mushrooms
- Chop the sausages into bite size pieces and combine with the chicken, mushrooms and onion
- Cook the noodles
- Mix the flour and cream until smooth, add the chicken stock and cook until it is thickened
- Season to taste
- Add the sausage mixture to the sauce and then pour it over the noodles in a buttered casserole
- Sprinkle with grated cheese and bake at 350F for 25-30 minutes

Faster and easier

PEOPLE WITH no medical training can apply oxygen to accident victims in less than a minute using this new automatic emergency ventilator-resuscitator.

Within the carry bag the equipment is ready for immediate use and an instruction card explains the easy method of operation.

The rescuer simply pulls the case open, removes the face mask, turns on the oxygen supply — switching the control knob to child or adult setting — and repeats the mask over the mouth and nose of the victim, ensuring that the head is tilted to open the air way.

(WGT)

Just Between Us

Ya'qoub Salim

Ancient beauties

AN ARCHAEOLOGIST friend of mine made a fantastic discovery. It was so phenomenal, so earth-shatteringly significant that he wanted to tell the world, to bring all his friends to see it, to climb to the highest rooftop and broadcast the news in twelve languages.

But the objects discovered were very delicate, and the thought of showing them off to troops of visitors made my friend wince. Some people might find them unattractive; might say that these extraordinary finds had a beauty that only a mother could love. But my friend knew their worth, and feared that once the world knew about them, everyone would want to come and see. People on average are only of average ability, and some people much less; so he knew that out of a sizeable group of sightseers someone was bound to slip and fall on top of his babies.

Besides, he was naturally a shy character. So, rather than broadcast the news, he let only a few trusted acquaintances hear about his great find, knowing that they would keep their mouths shut. The authorities were also notified, of course.

The authorities came to have a look. So did his friends. They shot a few rolls of film and left. Good, my friend thought. Now we can get back to the real work. For the next 24 hours they made very rapid progress — several millimetres, actually.

The next thing he knew, my friend saw his picture on television and in the papers. The glowing description of his ancient beauties that he had given in strictest confidence to only a trusted few were printed in capital letters to form huge banners on the front pages. Somebody had snitched.

Well, he supposed it had been silly to think that he could actually keep the news quiet. But his big worry now was how many people the publicity would attract to the site. In the end, he calmed himself...the news stories had made it clear that visitors would not be very helpful to the work still ongoing at the site, and maybe that would be enough. What's more, surely anybody who was intelligent enough actually to be interested in the discovery would also be intelligent enough to exercise some self-restraint.

Next day, his expectations were fulfilled. Yes indeed, they were very intelligent — or wily rather. He found himself spending all day in trying to keep people away from his babies, in giving them personalised accounts of the great event, and chasing after cunning uninvited guests who managed to find their way in.

It was an exciting, sometimes an exhilarating, experience...though no less exasperating for all that. When at the end of the day my friend returned to his dig's base camp, leaving the discovery under guard by an army platoon armed with howitzers and Exocet missiles, he slumped in a chair and pondered the significance of the whole affair.

It was impressive, how much concern Jordanians showed for their cultural heritage, he thought. He really hadn't expected such a stir. Another thing that was impressive was how many of those people were cultivated, highly refined individuals who could be trusted. He knew this because every single one of his visitors assured him they were cultivated, highly refined and could be trusted, so therefore they should be given a special chance to touch the discovery.

Pondering the future, he was even more excited. After all, digging had barely started at the site. What treasures could future seasons of work be expected to uncover? And how much public interest would they generate? A great deal, he could wager.

That's when my pal made his big decision. Last I heard from him, he was studying to become a plumber in Des Moines, Iowa.



Face veil from Bir Al-Sab'a (Beersheba — foreground) and costume from Ramallah, against the regal background of Jerash

Jerash brings a musical glimpse of village life

• Karyina Ya Mahlah — How beautiful is our Village — is the theme of a special musical production based on Widad Kavar's now famous traditional costume collection and showing at Jerash this week. The show is far more ambitious in scope than anything Mrs. Kavar has done before with her costumes and she says now that if she had realized the work involved she would never have tackled it!

The 50 minute production opens with a welcoming song and dabke dancing. Three peasant girls are enjoying a traditional poetic discussion when a pedlar appears. He sells fabrics for the village dresses and tries to tempt one of the girls into buying. She tells him that the only costume she knows is that of her own village though she would like to know more. Of course the pedlar knows them all and the show begins as he describes them to her.

As the girls parade the different costumes the narrators describes them and tells us something about the social setting in which they were worn. Old and modern costumes of Jordan and Palestine are included.

The show finishes with more dabke and singing. High school girl Lamis Naber is making her public debut as a singer at Jerash and will be joined by musicians Muhammad Hawari and Said Hanna. The music for the show is all based on traditional songs about weddings and costumes.

Mrs. Kavar says the show will be lively, colourful and informative one but organizing it has not been easy.

One of her greatest problems has been assembling a cast of forty girls to model the costumes. She decided to use such a large number to avoid the confusions of frequent costume changes. But in the early days many girls

seemed unwilling to come to the show despite what they knew about the social satisfaction. Many say: "Don't seem to enjoy the new achievement" she says.

However she is full of pride: girls who have stayed working three to four rehearsals a week, past two months. And for her fellow-committee member Widad Qusous and Gay Williams, show's producer Nader Qusous are also heavily involved in Jerash Festival activities.

Now that the Karyina Ya Mahlah show has been developed, Mrs. Kavar would like to see it continue as a regular event but using modern costumes in the current fashion would protect the originals from wear and encourage local makers and designers who are to produce first class modern ones.

• General Manager of the Holiday Inn Gordon MacKenzie has decided to challenge the Marriott Hotel's Halle Agullar on new ground this weekend.

Gordon has entered this year's Jordan Rally as a co-driver and is hoping he can keep the name of the Holiday Inn respectable as he meets up with Halle's proven track record in difficult conditions, which goes back to a 1959 Grand Prix win in Argentina.

Regardless of the outcome, Gordon, who is definitely a rookie rally driver, will win votes for his courage in taking on such experienced drivers as Halle and his wife Teresa who is driving with Gloria Bateyeh.



Gordon MacKenzie



Teresa and Halle Agullar

• If the spectacular discovery of Ghazul in recent weeks has aroused your interest in archaeology, you would like to have a look at it all began.

British Council representative David Bell is co-operating with Friends of Archaeology to bring a BBC film series "The Making of Man" to Jerash.

The seven part series, which is presented by noted palaeo-anthropologist Richard Leakey, will be shown at the British Council on Wednesday at 6.30 pm each week until November.

The series begins with the early ancestors of man and goes back about 20-15 million years (Pre-Present). It discusses the importance of evolution, takes a special look at man's evolution in Africa and the migration of the species to Europe, Far East, and debunks a few common myths surrounding our derthals.

In the light of the discovery of place on our own doorstep at Ghazul, part six of the series "Down" should be of special interest. It discusses the gradual transition from hunter/gatherer life to seasonal and then permanent settlement. The series concludes with a study of the question of aggression and co-operation in nature.



Puppet theatre at Jerash

Suleiman and the Bee

ONE TIME the king, Suleiman, was sleeping in his garden when a little bee flew by. She thought his nose was a flower because it was so big and beautiful. She landed on it and stung it by mistake. The king woke up and was angry because his nose hurt. What did he do? And what did she promise him?

To find that out come and see the puppet play "Suleiman and the Bee" at the Jerash Festival. The story will be told by Jordan's puppet theatre under the direction of Wafa Qusous on 12, 13, 15 and 16 August and will have two performances daily at 5:00 and 6:00 pm, at the Sound & Light Theatre.

The little bee became very important to the king and queen and all the people in their court even though she was so small. This story shows us that no matter how small or young someone is, that they shouldn't be disrespected or disregarded. Everyone can help or achieve something even if he is not an adult. And everyone should do his job with a sense of responsibility and with honesty no matter how small the job is.



Puppeteer Wafa Qusous with one of her characters

When you do something nice for someone else it will make you happy in ways that you didn't expect.

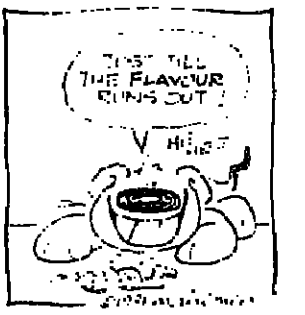
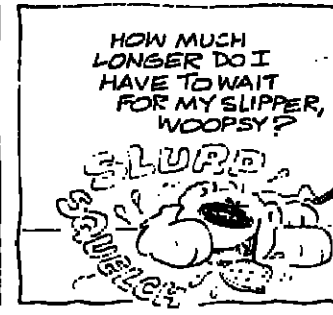
King Suleiman, his queen and all his court, with the little bee and her friends will be waiting to see you at the Jerash Festival.

PICTURE POINT



THIS sketch was sent by one of our regular Star Kids artists, Omar Rayyan. Fourteen-year-old Omar goes to the American Community School in Amman.

WOOPSY



TUMBLEWEEDS

by TOM K. RYAN



BENJI

by Wright and Camp

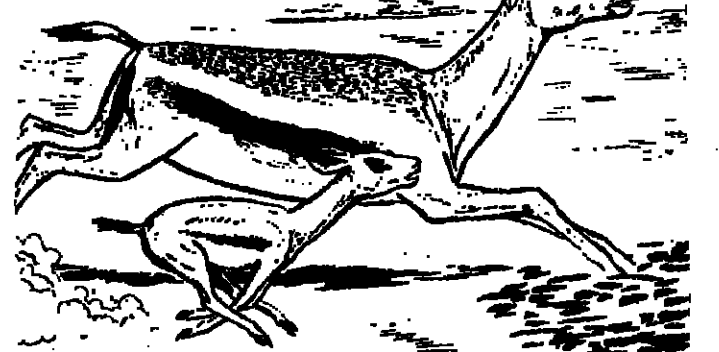


Our Fascinating EARTH

BY PHILIP SEFF, Ph.D. & DAVID BAER, II

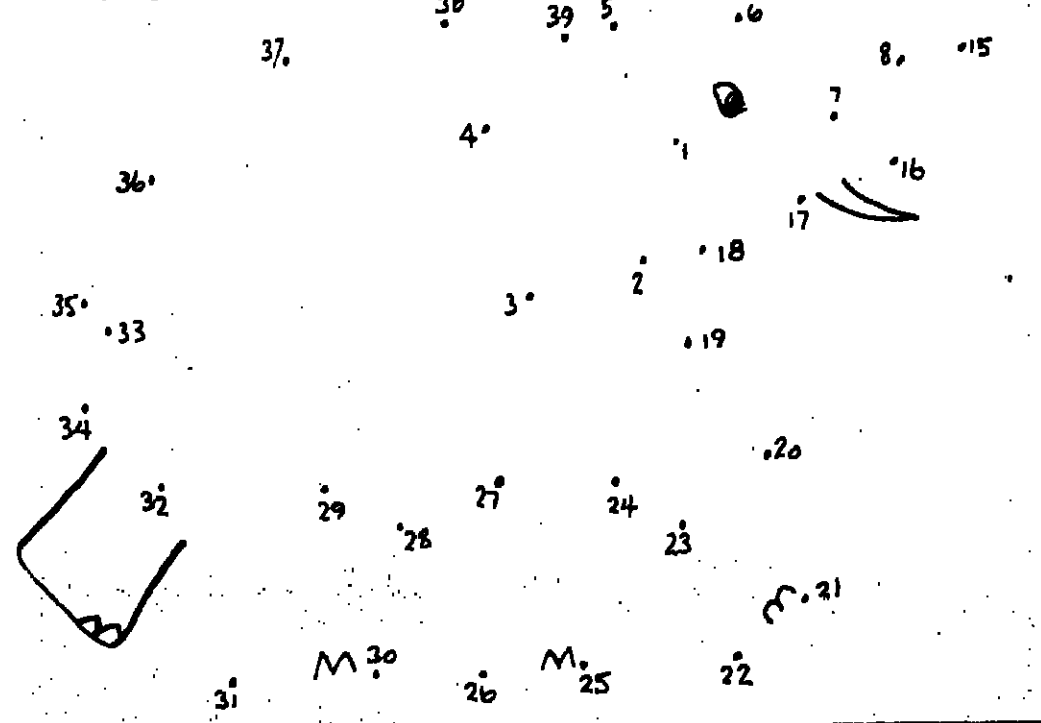
Fastest Child OF THE FOREST

EACH ANIMAL HAS ITS OWN WELL-DEVELOPED METHOD OF SURVIVAL, AND FOR THE GAZELLE, A SMALL AFRICAN ANTELOPE, HIS DEFENSE IS HIS ABILITY TO RUN AND OBTAIN SPEED.



THE AMAZING BABY GAZELLE IS ABLE TO RUN WITHIN A FEW MINUTES AFTER BIRTH, AND IN TWO OR THREE DAYS THIS REMARKABLE INFANT CAN ACTUALLY OUTFRAN A FULL-GROWN HORSE.

join up the dots to discover the creature.



11 AUGUST 1983

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THE JERUSALEM STAR 25

THE JERUSALEM STAR 25

sport

Basketball tournament in pictures

AMMAN (Star) — At the end of the sixth day of the Fifth Arab Basketball competition, Jordan leads group one and has qualified for the semi-finals. The three other nations in the semi-finals are Tunisia who lead in group two, Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

Jordan was expected to meet Iraq Wednesday night while Tunisia was billed to play Saudi Arabia in the semi-finals.

The winners of the matches play in the grand finals. Losers will meet for the third and fourth positions.



Jihad Saqr

Tarif cycling club gets busy

AMMAN (Star) — The Tarif Cycling Club, the only cycling club in Jordan is to organise a series of competitions within the next four months.

The president of the club Mr. Jihad M. Saqr disclosed this to 'The Star' Monday. The first of the competitions will take place on Friday 12 August for what he called 'youngsters' that is boys between the ages of 13-15. Mr. Saqr who is also the national cycling coach said the competitors in will be divided into three categories and they will cover a distance of 20 kilometres. The second will be held on 30 September for seniors (25-60 years) in a distance of 12 kilometres. The last competition which comes on in November will be for boys between the ages of 7-12. The distance to be covered is 12 kilometres. All the races will be held in the Jordan University area. Mr. Saqr said the races are the first of their kind to be held in Jordan.

The Tarif Cycling Club was established in April 1982. In the words of Mr. Saqr, 'It was formed to fulfil a dream' and its name Tarif was chosen to honour the late Tarif Al-Khayat — whom he described as the 'father' of cycling in Jordan. The club has 24 members.

The aim of the cycling club is to whip up enthusiasm for cycling as a sport in the country for people of all ages. Mr. Saqr disclosed that the club has nine members in the 12-member national cycling team. He said the club is training hard to participate in international cycling competitions.

One problem which impedes the progress of the club now is finance. The club, Mr. Saqr hinted has no bicycles of its own and has to rely on the Jordan Cycle Federation (JCF) for training facilities. He noted however, that many companies in the country have shown interest in the club and are helping financially. These companies according to Mr. Saqr have been sponsoring competitions organised by the club.



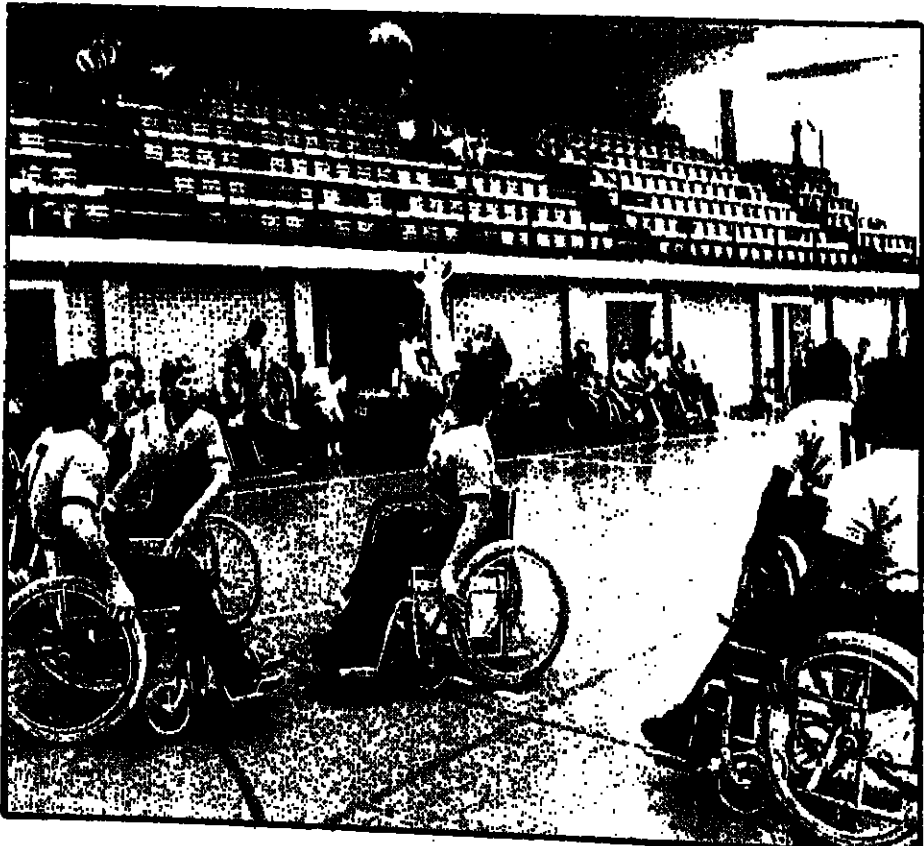
A scene from the Jordan/Saudi Arabian match. Jordan won 83-71.



Lebanese women against Iraqi women. Iraq beat Lebanon 59-54.



Leaders of the various teams watch the opening ceremony at the Sports city.



A basketball match during the competition

Disabled back from games

AMMAN (Star) — The Jordanian disabled team which participated in this year's paraplegic games in Stoke Mandeville, England has returned home with four medals, three silver and one bronze.

Ayda Shishani won three medals, two silver in the 100 and 200 metres races. She also won the bronze in the table tennis championship. The other silver medal was won by Mahour Sabeh Al-Eish in the weightlifting contest. He lifted 105 kilograms.

The two-week tournament brought together

disabled men and women from 36 countries including three from the Arab world. The games included weightlifting, gymnastics, table tennis, athletics and basketball.

A member of the Jordanian Union for Athletic Activities of the Disabled Mr. Ahmad Shaker who accompanied the team told the Star that the Jordanian team put up impressive performances.

The next paraplegic games will be held next June in Chicago.

All is now set for rally

AMMAN (Star) — Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah the 1983 Middle East rally kicks off on Tuesday 11 August at 0800 hrs. The rally point is the Amman Marriott Hotel.

Speaking to 'The Star', Mr. Khalil of the Royal Automobile Club, organisers of the rally said that any competitor who fails to report for check-in 15 minutes before the commencement of the rally will be disqualified. The check-in will include inspection of licenses, safety equipment and parts of the competing cars. The rally will last two days.

Fun And Fitness

Fitness in the heat
By: Steve Tweslen
United States Sports Academy

It is 90° F exercise outside in the heat. How can you safely maintain your physical fitness in the extreme heat of the Middle East summer? Will you have to give up your fitness programme in cooler weather?

No. There is a very easy and simple solution to this situation: exercise indoors. The options available to the fitness enthusiast are varied and some require very little or no additional equipment.

One of the most basic indoor exercises is jogging in place. It can be done in limited amounts of space, and requires no extra special equipment. One must be careful, however, because stationary running may place additional stress upon the knees and ankles. A soft but firm surface may help prevent the soreness.

Stair climbing is another type of indoor exercise requiring special equipment except stairs. Round trips on a single flight of stairs can give one the necessary aerobic exercise to maintain condition.

Vigorous dancing or calisthenics are possible ways to keep fit during hot summer months. The key to making the most of these exercises is to keep the heart rate up to the proper level.

Rope skipping is one of the best indoor exercises. A short length of rope can provide excellent cardiovascular and upper torso exercise. There are a variety of methods to rope skipping: jump with both feet together; alternate left and right feet; jump on one foot and step over the rope one foot at a time. The pace can be varied to 75 to 100 steps per minute. To be certain, check your heart rate.

To strengthen the heart and legs, try bench stepping. All that is required is a sturdy bench or table 15-20 inches high. Start with feet on the floor; step up onto the box with the right foot and follow with the left. Continue for as long as you wish, alternating the legs regularly. The pace for bench stepping can be 22 to 30 steps per minute.

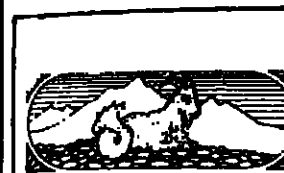
One obstacle you may have to overcome with indoor exercising is boredom. You can use your imagination to find what helps you overcome the boredom. Some methods include exercising to music, with a friend, or a television.

Extreme weather conditions do not mean you have to cancel your exercising. Stay indoors in the air conditioned atmosphere and keep fit with indoor exercises.

Intimate Starcasts

By Henry Arnold

Week commencing 11 August, 1983



CAPRICORN — December 21st to January 19th

You would be very well advised not to take any chances during this week, especially when it comes to trying to keep up with a friend at business in the spending field. You may be very tempted to do so, but you should be cautious. An arrangement which may have been made for you without your knowledge during this coming week may make you feel annoyed. Try not to show this, for it was meant with your interests at heart.



AQUARIUS — January 20th to February 18th

There will be talk of a possible future travel outing, but you would be well advised to try not to do too much, or you could make yourself over-tired. Also, there will be plenty of excitement at work during this coming week. In the social field, an invitation which you may receive during the coming period should both please and excite you, but you can expect a little jealousy from a friend around you.



PISCES — February 19th to March 20th

Good news about a coming change at business could give you a great deal of happiness during this coming week, and in turn enable you to go ahead with your plans for the future. You could gain much pleasure by being in the company of someone who means a great deal to you, and a very strong attachment may be formed with this person, and this should delight you.



ARIES — March 21st to April 20th

It seems very likely that you will meet up with a very old friend where your work is concerned during this week, and this in turn could mean an unusual opportunity for you, which could prove to be very beneficial. You may feel quite relieved around mid-week, when a family plan tends to clash with a rather dull outing which you had been asked to join, and thus relieves you from boredom.



TAURUS — April 21st to May 20th

The indications are that someone around you could be rather jealous of a recent success of yours, but just as long as you keep quiet about it, all should go smoothly. Where your personal life is concerned, you should make some extremely good headway in this direction, and you could find yourself in perfect agreement with a close one on some new arrangements which you both have in mind.



GEMINI — May 21st to June 20th

Where your finances are concerned, you would be very well advised not to be over generous with your money during this coming week, as you will need it yourself later for a special plan. In your working life, you can only expect average conditions during this coming week, but towards the end of the week, you could find yourself celebrating some exciting news that a colleague receives.

Thursday 11 August

Birthday Greetings to You. As far as your career is concerned, there is every indication of sudden success within the next two or three months. You have put much hard work into your job lately, and now you will reap the reward for it.

Your personal problems will take a little sorting out, but don't let jealousy into any decision you may have to make at the end of next month.

Although financially, the beginning of next month will prove to be a rather worrying time, there is a piece of really good fortune coming your way, and by your next anniversary, you will be more secure than ever.

An opportunity to travel may be offered to you within the next three months. You would be well advised to seek advice from someone else before making any firm plans in this respect.

Friday 12 August

Birthday Greetings to You. Where romance is concerned, those of you who are single could meet up with a new friend of the opposite sex either in October or November, and this will develop into an extremely secure and happy relationship. In the social field, plenty of activity is indicated throughout the coming year, and you should try your hand at entertaining on a fairly large scale in the autumn.

Financially, the coming year should be a better one than for some time past. You are likely to receive a lump sum either in November or December and this could be brought about by the actions of a relative or close friend.

It seems very likely that you will get the urge to travel a very long distance at the end of next month. However, before making a final decision regarding this, you should think very carefully.

Saturday 13 August

Birthday Greetings to You. For those of you with an impulsive nature, your social life could be a little strained during the coming month. Try and curb your tongue, and then all will be well.

From the end of next month, your financial position will improve considerably, and you will know a security that you never thought possible for many years to come. Don't let this influence you to dash out on a wild spending spree or lend money to relatives.

There may be an opportunity to travel within the next few months, and you would be foolish to ignore it, for many unexpected possibilities could arise from this journey, and one of your secret ambitions be fulfilled.

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CANCER — June 21st to July 21st

Where your working life is concerned, if you are thinking of making a change in this direction, you would be well advised to make certain to weigh all the facts very carefully, for remember that you like to be popular with your colleagues. A well-meaning person may try to interfere with a plan you have in mind. Do not be put off, stick firmly to your own ideas.

LEO — July 22nd to August 21st

The indications are that you should receive some very pleasing financial news during this coming week, and a colleague at work could give you some information which could prove to be of considerable assistance. You may have been worrying a little more than was necessary over someone who is very dear to you. This week, things should work out better for them, and you will realise that your worry was unnecessary.

VIRGO — August 22nd to September 21st

This should be a fairly successful week for you where work or chores are concerned. However, you would be wise not to place too much reliance upon a vague promise made to you by an associate. Where obstacles in the home are concerned, you would be well advised to rely upon your own instincts. This way, you can go ahead and have a very successful and happy week.

LIBRA — September 22nd to October 22nd

Try to show your capacity for mastering a very tricky situation at work this week, and this way, your handling of a rather difficult colleague will win you many congratulations. You would do well to spend your evenings quietly with those nearest and dearest to you this coming week, and this way, things should turn out satisfactorily, than if you were to go in for the unusual.

SCORPIO — October 23rd to November 21st

A very average sort of week is indicated for you, without any apparent unusual movements, but things should be building up to some exciting activities. Younger people may be occupying your attention quite a lot at the moment, and you could gain a great deal of popularity in an unexpected quarter this week. At work, you appear to have a very busy week ahead of you.

SAGITTARIUS — November 22nd to December 20th

You should do your best to guard against offending someone by idle chatter during this coming week, as chance remarks could hurt somebody who stands very good towards you, and has been a good friend. In the social field, an invitation which you may receive some time during this week may take you to a place of interest and this could arouse your desire to start a new hobby.

Birthday Information Charts

Monday 15 August

Birthday Greetings to You. All the little trials and tribulations that have been causing you so much anxiety will straighten themselves out during the coming month. There is a new happiness ahead of you, partly due to the introduction of a new friend of the opposite sex.

Family problems will be much easier to cope with this year. Instead of putting so much responsibility on your shoulders, as they have been doing lately, your family will at last realise what they owe you, and you can expect a lot of admiration from this quarter in future.

There will be many changes in your personal life, but they will be for the better, and you can look forward to a great degree of happiness from the end of next month.

Tuesday 16 August

Birthday Greetings to You. An opportunity to express yourself in a very unusual manner will present itself to you during the next two months. This could lead to great success for you as long as you don't rush things, but let them take their natural course.

Financially, this is going to be a really good year for you with unexpected gifts of money from a most unexpected quarter.

To satisfy the ambitions in your career, you will have to put in a lot of really hard work from now on. You would be well advised to listen to advice from those more experienced than yourself, for they will give you the necessary inspiration to make a decision that will bring great success for you.

Wednesday 17 August

Birthday Greetings to You. Family problems will be a little troublesome, but with your usual tactful handling of a situation, they will soon be overcome. If the younger ones ask for advice, be very careful what you tell them for you are not aware of the influence you have on their behaviour.

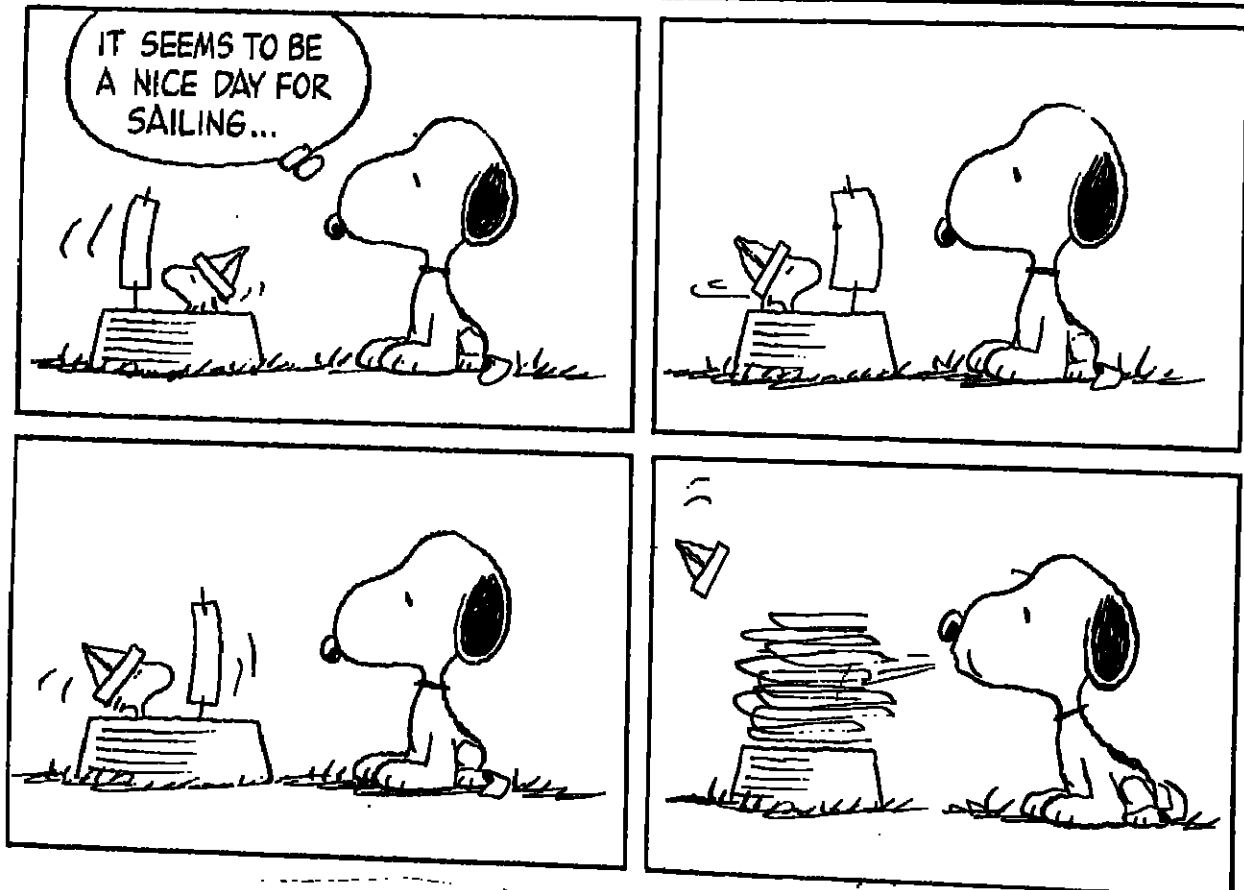
Your own personal life promises to be very exciting this coming year. Romance is in the air for the eligible ones, and there is a strong indication of wedding bells.

If you have an opportunity to travel regarding your work, it would be very foolish to turn it down. You may never get another chance like this one, and you would be well advised to give it very serious consideration.

17 AUGUST 1983

PEANUTS

featuring
"Good ol'
Charlie Brown"
by SCHULZ



Tarzan

by EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS



FRANK AND ERNEST



GARFIELD

